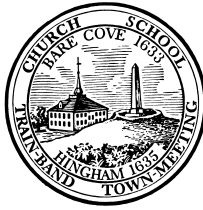


ANNUAL REPORT



TOWN OF HINGHAM

2005

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INSIDE BACK COVER

Map of Bare Cove Park

Report compiled and edited by Betty Tower

EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Suzanne Letizia-Eddy and James Dow, recipients of the
2005 Donna Mayberry Greenberg Employee Awards

Sue, the Administrative Secretary for the Zoning Board of Appeals, was awarded the Productivity and Efficiency Award. Sue was nominated for rising to the challenge of running the department single-handedly by working more hours, assuming extra duties, learning new skills, and doing so with levity and grace.

The Customer Assistance Award was presented to Jim, the Town's Sewer Department Supervisor. The Hingham Sewer Commission nominated him for this award because of his willingness to go beyond the requirements of his job to help the public with sewer related problems. He also received an overwhelming number of thank you letters from Town residents for jobs well done.

In addition to the above awards, a special recognition plaque was given to the Communication Center Dispatchers as a group. Resident Janice Bacon cited that they are the ones who answer when we have emergencies and are able to calm, assure and guide us through our times of stress.

TOWN INFORMATION

Web Site: www.hingham-ma.com

Incorporated	1635
Population	20,812
Registered Voters	14,020
Area	22.59 Square Miles
Shore Line	21 Miles
Number of Houses, including Condos	6959
Assessed Value	
Real Property	\$4,537,505,927
Personal Property	\$65,365,130
Tax Rate	\$9.20
Schools	5
Public School Children, K-12 (3/1/06)	3,822
Professional Staff	309
Support Staff	146
Total FY2006 Budget	\$63,863,137
School FY2006 Budget	\$29,705,851

U. S. Congressman	State Senator	State Representative
Tenth District	Norfolk-Plymouth	Third Plymouth Dist.
William Delahunt	Robert L. Hedlund	Garrett Bradley
1317 Longworth House	State House	State House
Wash. DC 20505	Room 413E	Room 472
202-255-3111	Boston, MA 02133	Boston, MA 02133
	617-722-1646	617-722-2120

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2 005 was a most memorable year for Hingham, if only for two events that had not been witnessed in modern town history.

First, Hingham received a visit from what is technically termed “The Commissioner’s Trophy” – otherwise known to the Red Sox fans lined up outside of Town Hall on March 12, 2005 as the “World Series Trophy”, captured by our team in a sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals the previous October. Hundreds of thrilled fans, old and young – as well as the few sorely disappointed but good natured Yankee supporters – paid homage to the statue.

Second, Hingham experienced a four night town meeting – the longest in recent history. This year’s meeting required both Mondays and Tuesdays of the weeks of April 25 and May 2, straddling the town election. Selectman Melissa Tully served as the Chairman of our Board

for the first two nights of the Meeting and, having been re-elected over the weekend, then yielded the Chair for the next two nights – and the balance of the year – to Selectman Mathew MacIver.

The length of the Town Meeting was directly related to an unusually large number of development proposals either directly sponsored by the town or requiring some type of public approval. These included proposals for the development of a town ice rink (defeated), an expansion of the Central Fire Station (approved), funding for the construction of the cold storage building at Bare Cove Park (approved) and an easement to allow the construction of a new Community Nursery School (approved), among many other issues.

The Board of Selectmen addressed these issues and many others over the course of 36 meetings, as well as many other department, committee and community meetings attended by each of us.

Public Safety

Police activities in 2005 were focused on the consolidation of existing initiatives. Our community policing strategy continues to strengthen relationships between officers on the street and the many different neighborhoods and constituencies that demonstrate sometimes divergent needs. Our school resource officers continued to work in all grade levels and all schools, as exemplified by the very successful DARE program and an oversubscribed forensics class now being taught at the High School. The department delivered two more Community Police Academy programs this year, numbers 17 and 18 and swelling the already considerable HCPA alumnus/ae ranks to well over 300. Additional detective resourcing focused on the special needs of our elderly population, expanding quickly with the Linden Ponds project. Both field and administrative officers also continue to develop law enforcement skills in the growing area of cybercrime, concerned primarily with limiting the risk of internet-based fraud and youth predation practices. On the personnel side, we welcomed five new officers into the ranks and were pleased to promote Patrolman Darren McAdams to Sergeant. Selectmen also convened two dog hearings, resulting in the banishment of four dangerous animals from town.

The Hingham Fire Department experienced a major change in leadership this year. Chief William Johnson retired after nine years at the helm of the department and was presented a beautiful fire trumpet in tribute to his service at the annual Firefighter's Breakfast on June 6. Just weeks later, on June 21, we selected Deputy Chief Mark Duff to succeed Chief Johnson, based on his outstanding technical, administrative and leadership skills as well as his innovative approach to modern fire and

emergency management issues. Chief Duff soon thereafter appointed Captain Robert Olsson as Deputy Chief. We should also note, as a matter of town history, the appointment of the first female firefighter in Hingham history, Jessie Harvey. In non-personnel matters, the Selectmen authorized the deployment of a second ambulance after many years of preparation and testing. Hingham has now significantly improved its response time to medical emergencies by placing ambulances at both the Constitution and Torrent stations. Regarding stations, town meeting finally authorized the expenditure of funds on the reconstruction of the Central Fire Station, in a side bay configuration, after many years of discussion and a very active dialogue with the Hingham Centre neighborhood and the community as a whole. Construction will commence in 2006. Finally, we should report that our emergency management team, including staff from the Light Plant, did an outstanding job of responding to an unusually strong line of thunderstorms that struck town on August 14th. This remarkable storm not only caused several fires, but also created a town-wide power blackout and uprooted trees on upper Main Street. The burst of precipitation also overstressed drainage channels in the Greenbush tunnel right of way, causing severe flooding in businesses along North Street.

Public Works

Two issues dominated public works discussions this year. The first was the extraordinary amount of snowfall experienced in town (over 107 inches) resulting in extraordinary – and unbudgeted - snow removal expenditures. Snow removal charges totaled close to \$1,000,000, resulting in a snow removal account deficit of \$725,000. Fortunately, Hingham qualified for state and Federal financial assistance that reduced our final bill to approximately \$605,000. The second major issue was the conclusion of the work of the Selectmen's special Traffic Safety Study Committee, resulting in the recommendation that the town install traffic signals at the intersection of High, Free and Main Streets. Initial reconfiguration recommendations had not succeeded in reducing the number of accidents and side street delay times at this location, so Selectmen finally recommended on August 9 that the Capital Outlay Committee allocate the funds needed to automatically control traffic at this troublesome intersection. These lights will not only be likely to reduce accidents resulting from a unique combination of cross town and High School traffic, but will also reduce side street delay times from an average of 600 seconds (10 minutes) at peak times, to 25 seconds, raising the congestion classification of those streets from a "F" rating to a "B" rating with only a minor impact on the classification of the Main Street components of the intersection ("A" to "B".) The Long Range Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee was increasingly active this year,

planning and conducting a variety of public awareness projects centered on the considerable financial as well as environmental benefits of recycling. On the personnel side, we welcomed the arrival of Randy Sylvester as Assistant Superintendent.

Water/Wastewater

Discussions regarding the use of water resources in town actively continued this year with Aquarian Water Company. We continue to ask the Water Company to support our growing needs for water, but in a way that does not adversely affect our freshwater resources. To this end, we continued to be concerned with plans to bring Free Street Well #4 out of reserve and into active use and provided extensive comments on possible effects of additional drawdown on the Weir River watershed. As a result of such concerns, the Department of Environmental Protection determined that a full Environmental Impact Report was required prior to any change of status. Further, the Weir River was later classified as a distressed riverway by the Department of Environmental Protection, further calling into question the wisdom of removing even groundwater from the watershed in that location.

Work also continues on the Wastewater Management Master Plan. Members of the Master Plan Committee crafted a detailed scope of the long range study that was submitted to the DEP and subsequently approved. Funding for the plan from the State Revolving Fund was also approved, setting the stage for an intensification of planning activity in 2006 and 2007.

Greenbush

Work on the Greenbush line continued apace in 2005, with major activity focused on the construction of the tunnel under Hingham Square. Much of the work of our office was devoted to mitigating the short-term disruptive effects of street and sidewalk closings, as well as detailed review of the numerous design/build plans submitted to our office. Communication continued to be challenging, but nonetheless was improved with the active oversight and reporting activities of our office's Greenbush project coordinator, Roger Fernandes. On a more positive note, the MBTA finally conceded that four quadrant gates will be installed in the most dangerous intersections in Hingham, most significantly at the intersection of Fort Hill, West and South Streets.

Downtown

Hingham Square merchants, as well as the town as a whole, tried to make the best of a challenging construction year. The Downtown

Association and the Men's Group of the Hingham Congregational Church once again sponsored the Taste of Hingham street fair, drawing hundreds of strollers and "tasters" to dozens of booths set up on North Street. The tradition of downtown street fairs continued with Christmas in the Square, even more elaborate and beautiful this year, particularly with the Mother's Club fine touch on the Christmas tree displays in Old Derby Academy. On a longer term note, we approved a schematic Master Plan for post-Greenbush downtown development, prepared and presented to us by the Development and Industrial Committee. This hardworking committee has also identified sources for \$1.3 million of the approximately \$7 million which will be required for the realization of the plan. We also heard a presentation from the Executive Office of Economic Affairs on a potential District Increment Financing Program and from the HDIC and the Downtown Association on the formation of a Business Improvement District (BID).

Housing

Much work continued on the development of additional affordable housing in Hingham. Ground was broken in the fall for our second Habitat House, off Central Street, and work continued on the so-called "Selectmen's Parcel" housing project on Beal Street. The Hingham Housing Partnership worked very hard on preparing an RFP for the development of this property for up to 40 units targeted for low, moderate and moderately priced housing markets, holding community information sessions in the neighborhood and utilizing a \$39,000 grant from the Commonwealth Development Fund for technical engineering assistance. Town meeting also approved a local preference for affordable units in this development.

Special Projects

Selectmen also participated in a number of special projects, including review of an easement proposal that ultimately allowed safe vehicular and pedestrian access to the new Hingham Community Nursery School now being built near the Middle School off Rosemary Drive. We also worked with a local developer, the Planning Board, the Bare Cove Park Committee and representatives of the Sports Partnership and other sports boards in town to bring together a complicated development project on the Project Turnabout property on upper Beal Street. This deal involved a land swap between the developer and the town that added better access and improved critical riverside sections of Bare Cove Park; provided a significant investment in public sports fields and the construction of a new field house; and provided for the environmental remediation of a contaminated section of the former naval ammunition depot, in exchange for rights to the development of 45 housing units

(including 5 affordable units) on the Turnabout property. The Selectmen also heard from the Light Plant Long Range Strategic Planning Committee, which recommended a variety of measures to restructure Light Plant governance, mitigate energy procurement risk, harmonize operations between the Town and Light Plant and provide the foundation for a Town energy policy committee. Similarly, we worked with the Advisory and Country Club Management Committees to establish a Long Range Planning Committee to examine fundamental strategic planning issues concerning the future development of this valuable town resource. We also received recommendations from the Green Building Study Committee with the view of incorporating stronger consideration of green building standards into construction RFPs issued by the Town.

Special Events

Selectmen once again convened a very successful State of the Town Forum on November 6, where issues brought to the general attention of the town focused on the continued pace of development as well as on methods to improve government-citizen communication. To the latter end, Selectmen published a new website, along with the Town Library, and, thanks to the hard work of the Town Assessor, Lane Partridge, brought a new Geographic Information System online. Selectmen once again sponsored both the Selectmen's Golf Tournament, to support the 4th of July Committee, and the Selectmen's Regatta at the Lincoln Maritime Center. The No Place for Hate Committee sponsored several notable events, including a symposium at the Glastonbury Abbey Conference Center on Martin Luther King Day, as well as the annual Interfaith Seder at Congregation Sha'ary Shalom. This congregation also celebrated their 25th anniversary this year.

Hingham Town Staff

Several noteworthy retirements and appointments occurred during 2005. Long time Town Treasurer/Collector Ruth Anne Beck retired after a distinguished career that raised her office to a new standard of professionalism and service. We gladly accepted her recommendation to appoint Assistant Treasurer Jean Montgomery to assume her role. M.J. Shultz, longstanding ZBA Administrator, also retired this year after many, many years of outstanding public service in a position with unique and challenging technical, administrative and public relations dimensions. We welcome Jane Santosuosso to our ranks as new ZBA administrator.

Lovely Black Rock Country Club was the location this year for the annual Christmas Party. The special highlights of this event are the Donna Mayberry Greenberg Awards. Sue Letizia Eddy was awarded the

Efficiency Award for the outstanding service she has provided over the years in the ZBA office, as well as her leadership during the transition time between Administrators. Jim Dow of the Sewer Department received the Customer Service Award for many years of dedicated community service, above and beyond the call of duty. Finally, the Hingham Dispatchers were given special recognition for their dedication, professionalism and teamwork as an integral member of the emergency services community in our town.

We wish to note the passing of Recreational Commissioner Donna Powers, a beloved member of our community and a stalwart proponent of women's sports. Selectmen recognized her love for Hingham and dedication to community service by naming the softball field in Hingham Centre in her memory.

Finally, we wish to recognize our remarkably talented and hardworking staff, including Charles Cristello, Betty Foley, Marilyn Harrington, Betty Tower and Leah Bleicken. There is no group more dedicated to the efficient operation of any Board of Selectmen, nor any public servants more conscientious in providing fair, prompt and courteous service to the public. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathew E. MacIver
Chairman

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

I am pleased to submit my thirteenth report to the citizens of the Town of Hingham.

The restoration of the Greenbush line continued to disrupt life in Hingham Square in 2005 with numerous street closings and detours. Excavation for the tunnel was preceded by utility relocations that at various times closed the intersections of Central, Main, and South at North Street. Temporary crossings of the right of way were constructed at Central and Main so that work on the tunnel could take place underneath the road surface. At year's end a good portion of the tunnel was excavated and work on the tunnel walls had begun. Work also began on the Fresh River Avenue grade crossing. One of the crossings was permanently closed in accordance with the Town's agreement with the MBTA and the remaining crossing was completely rebuilt to the intersection of Fort Hill and Fresh River Avenue. The work on Town Brook was finally finished after 17 months of construction and the town's drainage system was fully reconnected in March. I want to once again thank Project Inspector Roger Fernandes and Sergeant Michael Peraino for their vigilance in looking out for both the town's and the merchant's interests throughout this very difficult construction project.

The completion of the MBTA's work on North Street finally allowed us to begin the long-awaited reconstruction project for the square. The Hingham Development and Industrial Commission, with the help of Community Preservation funds, hired the Cecil Group to develop plans for downtown streetscape improvements. Project Inspector Roger Fernandes coordinated the work of bringing new and wider sidewalks with brick accents along with new lighting and street trees to North Street. When construction finished in November for the year, the future appearance of downtown Hingham had begun to take shape.

The design for the Route 228 Phase 2 project, from Merrymount Road to Queen Anne's Corner, passed another significant milestone in 2005. The Massachusetts Planning Organization included \$3 million for the project in the FY 2007 element of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). If all goes according to plan construction could begin in the spring of 2007. The design is currently being finalized and a public hearing will be scheduled early in 2006. The project will include bicycle lanes, some minor intersection improvements, new signals at the South Fire Station and new ADA compliant sidewalks.

The 2005 Town Meeting approved a land exchange with Hastings LLC that would reconstruct and expand the town-owned playing fields on Beal Street, improve the parking and access to Bare Cove Park, and provide

a buffer between Bare Cove Park and the housing development planned for the former Project Turnabout parcel. The financial benefit to the town of just the playing fields and parking improvements is estimated to be in excess of \$2 million. Since the land that the town is giving up has both state and federal protection a number of steps had to be taken to gain their approval. Special legislation was drafted and filed with Senator Hedlund and Representative Bradley. It is expected that the legislation will be enacted early in 2006. Additionally a new program of utilization was drafted for Bare Cove Park and submitted to the National Park Service in order to both incorporate the land that will be added to the park and to release the former park land that is being transferred to Hastings LLC. We have received preliminary approval from the National Park Service and expect to complete the transfer in the spring of 2006

The South Shore Regional Services Consortium is comprised of 12 municipalities along the Route 3 corridor from Milton to Duxbury. The consortium bid 10 highway maintenance services and 15 materials for ten South Shore DPWs in 2005. Combined cost reductions are estimated to be \$380,000 annually for the participants, with the most significant savings realized through paving services. In addition, a combined bid for office supplies amounted to savings of \$40,000 to \$60,000. Collective bidding also frees municipal staff from the time consuming municipal procurement process, leaving them more available to directly address services to the community.

Mary Jean Shultz retired in July after serving the town for over 20 years in the zoning office. MJ created the position of Zoning Administrator in the Town of Hingham, starting off as an aide to the Zoning Board. Her role grew as she learned more and became more accomplished in the realm of site plan review and variances. Fortunately, she remains only a telephone call away in a neighboring seaside community if we desperately need her expertise. In October the Board of Selectmen hired Jane Santasuosso of Braintree to fill this position. Jane previously worked for the state Department Of Communities and Development giving zoning advice to cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for its support, the department heads and administrators, as well as the town employees and volunteers, particularly the staff in the Selectmen's office, for their helpfulness and cooperation during the past year. I look forward to another productive year serving the Hingham community in 2006.

Charles J. Cristello
Town Administrator

TOWN CLERK

Four record-breaking nights with a great deal of interest in many different issues made for an unusual Annual Town Meeting in 2005. The attendance on the first night was 1001 (7% of the registered voters in Hingham) but dwindled on the last night to only 359 (2% of the registered voters). To reach a quorum there must be 300 registered voters present to begin the meeting.

On Election Day we had the opportunity to vote in 5 contested races, Selectmen, Light Board, School Committee, and 2 positions on the Recreation Commission as well as uncontested positions for Moderator, Assessor, Board of Health, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Sewer Commission, and one Recreation position. Voter turnout was 3,212 (22% of the registered voters), which is an average turnout for a Town Election. As the Town Clerk, I always hope to see big numbers! The Town Election is equally as, perhaps more, important as a State Election, because we are more directly affected by the results. Voters who will not be in town the day of the election are able to vote by absentee ballot either by mail or by stopping by the Town Clerk's office prior to Election Day. If you are not registered to vote, the last day to register is twenty days prior to the Town Meeting. We are open on that day until 8:00 pm to accommodate any new voter or a voter who wants to change their party affiliation.

There is no reason for people not to get involved in either the Town Meeting or Town Election; they are scheduled for the same time each year. According to the Town By-laws the Town Meeting is scheduled for the fourth Monday in April each year at seven o'clock pm., to be continued Tuesday, then the following Monday and Tuesday (if necessary). The Town election is the Saturday following the fourth Monday of April in each year. The Town Meeting is held at the High School and the Elections take place at the High School and the Middle School according to your precinct. We do live in busy times but your vote at the Town Meeting or Elections are very important! Your vote can be a very powerful thing.

If you have any questions about the Town Clerk's office or just want to learn more about the Town and its departments view our website www.hingham-ma.com to get started. Stop by the Town Hall at 210 Central Street; the Town Clerk's Office is the first door on the left when you come in the main entrance. This office is the gateway to the building and if we cannot answer your questions we will direct you to the right place. Someone is always here with a welcoming smile to greet you.

Eileen A. McCracken, Town Clerk

2005 ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

	<u>Term Expires</u>
MODERATOR (1 Year Term)	
Thomas L. P. O'Donnell	2006
BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 Year Term)	
Mathew E. MacIver, Chairman	2006
Philip J. Edmundson	2007
Melissa A. Tully	2008
TOWN CLERK (3 Year Term)	
Eileen A. McCracken	2006
TREASURER/COLLECTOR (3 Year Term)	
Jean Montgomery (Appointed to fill term)	2007
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 Year Term)	
Robert H. Kurtz	2006
Mark F. Tyburski	2007
Stuart "Greg" Hall, Chairman	2008
BOARD OF HEALTH (3 Year Term)	
Peter B. Bickford	2006
Kirk J. Shilts	2007
Stephan J. White, Chairman	2008
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD (3 Year Term)	
John A. Stoddard, Jr.	2006
Walter A. Foskett	2007
Kevin J. Bulman	2008
HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 Year Term)	
John Cafferty (State Appointment)	2006
Heather A. Hedlund	2007
James R. Watson	2008
Robert D. Keyes	2009
Mary Lou Tutkus	2010

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 Year Term)

Arthur Shabo	2006
Linda Krause Hill	2006
Kristin Parnell	2007
Chrisanne D. Gregoire	2007
Stephen Nagle	2007
Christine Smith	2008
Esther Healy	2008

PLANNING BOARD (5 Year Term)

W. Tod McGrath	2006
John A. Riley, Clerk	2007
Sarah H. Corey, Chairperson	2008
Paul K. Healey	2009
Susan Murphy	2010

SEWER COMMISSION (3 Year Term)

Michael A. Salerno	2006
Edmund Demko	2007
John M. Brandt	2008

RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Year Term)

Mitchell Powers	2006
Cheryl Alexander Bierwirth	2007
Kristin M. Parnell	2008
Robert D. Keyes	2009
Thomas J. Campbell	2010

**COMMITTEE TO HAVE CHARGE OF THE INCOME OF
THE HANNAH LINCOLN WHITING FUND (3 Year Term)**

Paul Chaffee	2006
Patricia Pierce	2007
Judith S. Belknap	2008

**TRUSTEES OF THE BATHING BEACH
(Elected at ATM, CH75, Acts of 1934)**

Alan B. Devine
F. Peter Fee
Joan P. Williams

**PLYMOUTH COUNTY CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE 9th
DISTRICT**

Marjorie A. Mahoney

2005 APPOINTEES

Term Expires

TOWN ACCOUNTANT/FINANCE DIRECTOR (Appt. By Selectmen MGL C41 S55)

Theodore Alexiades

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Appt. by Moderator ART 13, 1924)

Diana L. Cooper	2008
David H. Ellison	2008
James W. MacAllen	2008
Anthony P. Kiernan	2008
John F. Manning	2008
Luis A. Alvarado	2007
Laura Burns	2007
Irma Lauter	2007
William S. Reardon	2007
Jerry K. Seelen	2007
Michael S. Barclay	2006
Joseph L. Bierwirth, Jr.	2006
Gail K. Faring	2006
Linda B. Port	2006
John Manley	2006

ANIMAL SHELTER SITE STUDY COMMITTEE (Appt. by Selectmen, ART 72 ATM 1986)

MaryLou Hanlon
Margot Quadros
Justine Thurston
Barbara Partridge

APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF (Appt. By Selectmen)

Stephen McLaughlin	2008
Victor A. Popp	2007
Mario Romania, Jr.	2006

Associate Members (one year term)

Victor N. Baltera
Robert R. Bersani
James Broderick
Joseph Freeman
William M. Koplovsky
L. Bruce Rabuffo

Steven David
Jamey Tesler
Joseph Fisher

APPRAISER, TOWN

Richard Lane Partridge

BARE COVE PARK COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Ronald Clough	2008
Robert England	2008
Paul Doyle	2008
Jane M. Conrad	2007
Andrew Read	2007
Francis W. Sheltry	2007
E. Brooks Robbins	2006
John Swanson	2006
Timothy O'Neill (Resigned)	2006

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

(Appt. By Selectmen, 6/15/04)

Joan Hansel
Alyce Nobis
Shirley Rydell
Laura Spaziani
Avis Studley
Miriam Tod
Marjorie Elsdon
Katherine Morrissey
Kathleen Q. Norman
Rosemarie Durkin

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

ADVISORY COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen)

William Reardon

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Richard E. Morgan

Deputy Building Commissioners

Robert M. Egan	2006
Michael Simpson	2006
Richard Wakem	2006
Michael Yanovitch	2006

Plumbing Inspectors

Brian McPherson, Inspector	2006
Francis J. Yetman, Inspector	2006
George Rittershaus, Jr., Deputy Inspector	2006

Wire Inspectors

Patrick F. Cannon, Inspector	2006
Russell McLoud, Inspector	2006
John A. Stoddard, Jr., Deputy Inspector	2006
Kevin J. Bulman, Deputy Inspector	2006

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

William Helfrich	2008
Charles J. Cristello	2007
Mathew MacIver	2007
Philip S. Thaxter	2006

CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Moderator, ART 32 ATM 1956, By-Law 14)**

Judith S. Sneath	2008
Andrew P Mooradian	2007
Thomas J. Pyles	2006

Appt. By Advisory Committee Chairman

Irma Lauter

Anthony Kiernan

Ex-Officio Member

Town Accountant (Non-voting member)

CENTRAL FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 14 ATM 2002)**

Talbert Lauter

Alison Ferrante

Paul Murphy

Tina Sherwood

(Appt. by Moderator)

Carl E. Peterson

Mary K. Boland

Thomas J. Carey, Jr.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**(ART 38 ATM 2001)**

Mathew E. MacIver (Selectmen Rep.)	2008
Thomas Maloney (Moderator Appt.)	2008
Judith M. Cole (Selectmen Appt.)	2008
Susan B. Berry (Conservation Comm. Appt.)	2007
Sarah Corey (Planning Board Appt.)	2007

James Watson (Housing Authority Appt.)	2007
Willis Ertman (Historical Comm. Appt.)	2007
Valerie A. Talmage (Moderator Appt.)	2006
John Davenport (Selectmen Appt.)	2006

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
(MGL, C40 S8C, ART 1 STM 1959)**

Samuel Chapin	2008
Douglas D. Harvey	2008
Christopher Semlies	2008
Mark Milton	2007
John L. Eisenmann (Resigned)	2007
Eugene R. Babin	2006
Susan Berry	2006

**CONSTABLE
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 64 ATM 1991)**

Kathleen Peloquin	2008
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**CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD
(MGL, C32 S20 4B)**

Eileen A. McCracken (Elected by Employees)	2008
Thomas P. Hall (Appt. Retirement Board)	2007
Jean M. Montgomery (Elected by Employees)	2007
Vacancy	

Ex-officio

Theodore Alexiades (Town Accountant)	
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**COUNCIL ON AGING
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 13, 17 ATM 1970)**

James F. Plotner	2008
Thomas Hickey	2008
Susan Kiernan	2008
Joanne Pollick	2008
Anne Condon	2007
William Scott	2007
Steven D Waynen	2007
Robert Montgomery	2006
May Vuilleumier	2006
Mary Thomas	2006
Ruth Briggs	2006

**COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, ATM 1993 By-Law 37)**

Daniel Walsh	2008
Brian A. Elsdon	2008

Jack Gamache	2007
Sarah Boynton	2006
Matthew Havens	2006

CULTURAL COUNCIL
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C10 S35C)

Avis Goldstein	2008
Emily Hutchinson	2008
Mary Ann Blackmur	2007
Constance H. Cummings	2007
Elizabeth MacIntyre	2006
Julianna Lovell	2006

DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
(Appt. By Selectmen, 7 members, 5 Year Term)

Eileen McIntyre	2010
Blake L Auchincloss	2010
L. Bruce Rabuffo	2008
Peter Colket	2007
Benedict Wilcox	2007
Susan Murphy	2006
Donald Kidston	2006

DISABILITY ISSUES, COMMISSION ON
(MGL C40, S8J, ATM 1989 ART 50)

Susan Sommer	2008
John Pollick	2008
Barbara Partridge	2008
Richard Morgan	2006

EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP FUND

(Appt. by Selectmen 11/15/05 MGL C60 S3C)

Dorothy Galo
Jennifer Henriksen
Patricia Tomecek
Jean Curtis Loud
Judith Rielly

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DIRECTOR OF

Mark L. Duff

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS COMMITTEE

Eileen A. McCracken
James Dow
Carole A. Waite

FIRE CHIEF

Mark L. Duff

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL 130 S93,94,95,96)

See Conservation Commission

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen Annually)

Alden Carpenter, MD	Cynthia Tonucci
Shanna Nicholson	Mary Ann Blackmur
Susan Hagstrom	Ruth Potter
Lewis Scotton	Megan Buhr
Virginia Spannagel	Edward Rinella
Mary E. Bridges	Martha Harvey
Eric Gauthier	Ruth Potter
Mary Ellen Holt	Sherry Westleman
Philip Hertzburg	

GAR HALL TRUSTEES

(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 40 ATM 1944)

Robert Shepard	2008
Arthur Smith	2007
Ernest Sofis	2006

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 30 ATM 1971)

William S. English, Jr.	2008
Gregory Synnott	2008
Richard Callahan	2008
James Doyle	2007
Nicholas Amdur	2007
Margaret L. Merrill	2006
Warren Nottleson	2006

Associate Members

David Beal

Benjamin Matthews

Ex-officio Member

Harbormaster

HARBORMASTER-CUSTODIAN OF THE ISLANDS

John Souther

Kenneth R. Corson, III, Deputy Harbormaster

Assistant Harbormasters

Robert Jenks	2006
Michael Murray	2006

Michael Hickey	2006
Daniel Galvin	2006
Robert Blazuk	2006

HAZARDOUS WASTE-MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Bruce T. Capman, Executive Health Officer
David Damstra, Deputy Coordinator

HISTORIAN, TOWN

(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 2 1943 ATM)

Winston I. Hall

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

(Appt. By Selectmen)

(ART 37 1966 ATM, ART 34 1967 ATM)

Martha Saunders	2008
William S. Thayer	2008
Scott Ford	2007
Scott Butler	2007
Peter Barlow	2007
<u>Alternate Members</u>	
Winston I. Hall	2008
Benedict Wilcox	2007
Sean Papich	2007
Vacancy	
Vacancy	

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C40 S8D, ART 21 1974)

Sarah Dewey	2008
Gary Tondorf-Dick	2008
Kathleen Sutton	2008
Susan Boyd	2007
Arlyn Vogelmann	2007
Virginia Tay	2006
Willis Ertman	2006

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Eric Gauthier	2008
Reverend Gary Ludwig	2008
Lee Vigil	2007
John Sneath	2007
William Fideli	2007
Gretchen Condon	2006

James O'Brien	2006
Robert Bone	2006

JET NOISE TASK FORCE
(Appt. By Selectmen 4/18/00)

Albert Engelhart
 John Fisher
 Mary Ann Frye
 Richard Goldhammer
 Donald Levi
 Thomas Maloney

LIBRARY, HINGHAM PUBLIC, TRUSTEE OF

Kate Mahony
 Edward Siegfried
 A. Stedman Murdy
 Barbara Sullivan
 Jane P. Keirnan
 Charles B. Abbott, Esq.
 Nelson G. Ross, Esq.
 Harold Goldstein
 Arthur Garrity
 James Welch
 Margaret Weymouth

Appointed By Selectmen

David Mehegan	2008
Mark VanDine	2007
Edna English	2006

Appointed By Moderator

Thomas J. Carey, Jr.	2007
Kathleen Q. Norman	2006

Ex-officio Members

Rep. Of Board of Selectmen
 Treasurer/Collector
 Superintendent of Schools

HINGHAM LIGHT PLANT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, 8/10/04)

Walter Foscett
 Nicole Raphaelson
 John Ryan
 Robert Whitney
 Russell Heissner
 John J. Quinn
 Alice P. Granahan

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Selectmen)**

Mark L. Duff, Fire Chief
David Damstra, Fire Department Hazmat
Robert Olsson, Acting Deputy Chief, Fire Department
William Gray, Fire Department, EMS
Steven Carlson, Police Chief
Taylor Mills, Captain, Police Dept.
Mathew E. MacIver, Selectmen
Philip J. Edmundson, Selectman
Melissa Tully, Selectmen
Charles Cristello, Town Administrator
Joseph Stigliani, Superintendent of Public Works
Randy Sylvester, Ass't. Superintendent of Public Works
Harry Sylvester, Highway Supervisor
John Tzamorangas, Manager, HMLP
Edward McDonald, Light Plant
Richard Morgan, Building Commissioner
Paul Field, School Department
W. Clifford Prentiss, Conservation Officer
Bruce Capman, Executive Health Officer
John Souther, Harbormaster
Barbara Farnsworth, Elder Services

LONG RANGE WASTE DISPOSAL/RECYCLING COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Moderator, ART 25 ATM 1974)**

Donald N. Jensen	2007
Marianne MacDonald	2007
Stacy S. Havens	2007
Patrick S. Durkin	2007
Patricia Bickford Bray	2006
Helga Jorgensen	2006
Peter G. Stathopoulos	2006
Timothy H. White	2006
Maureen A. Devine	2006

Ex-officio Member

Ass't. Superintendent Public Works

MASS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTH. ADVISORY BOARD

Charles Y. Chittick, Jr., Hingham Representative

MASS BAYS PROGRAM LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMM.

Peter S. Rosen, Hingham Representative
Faith L. Burbank, Alternate Representative

MASS WATER RESOURCES AUTH. ADVISORY BOARD

Edmund Demko, Hingham Representative

Michael Salerno, Alternate Representative

MASSPORT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, 11/30/2000)

Declan Boland, Hingham Representative

Mathew E. MacIver, Alternate Representative

MEMORIAL BELL TOWER COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen Annually, ART 13 ATM 1975)

Kenneth W. Drescher

John McKendry

Shirley Newsom

Nancy Stimson

Joan Getto

Michael Shilhan

Dorcas V. Wagner

Justine L. W. Thurston

Eugene Shaw

Elizabeth Shaw

MEMORIAL/VETERANS DAY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen Annually)

Michael Cunningham, Chairman

C. Lee Shackford

John Overbagh

Keith Jermyn

Lewis Scotton

Joseph Willard

Richard Corcoran

John Diggins

Michele Meade

James Claypoole

Theodore Evangelides

Robert Haviland

Stephen Kelsch

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C161 S7, 3 Year Term)

Charles J. Cristello

2008

Edna S. English, Alternate

MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER

Eileen A. McCracken

OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C161 S7, ART 15 ATM 1997)

Michael Pollard (Conservation Appt.)	2008
John Davenport (Selectmen Appt.)	2008
Peter Rosen (Conservation Appt.)	2007
Roderick Gaskell (Conservation Appt.)	2007
Vacant (Planning Board Appt.)	

PARKING CLERK
(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 13 STM 11/16/81)

Eileen A. McCracken

PERSONNEL BOARD
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 4 ATM 1970)

Michael J. Puzo	2008
William D. MacGillivray	2008
Nelson G. Ross	2007
James Claypoole	2006
Marie S. Harris	2006

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD REP.
Philip J. Edmundson

POLICE CHIEF
Steven D. Carlson

PUBLIC WORKS, SUPERINTENDENT OF
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C41 S66)
Joseph Stigliani

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 15 ATM 2002)

John J. Bailey
Robert P. Garrity
Brian McSweeney
(Appointed by Selectmen)
Karl Willner
William Martin
Edward Colbert
Linda Kutsch

REGIONAL REFUSE DISPOSAL PLANNING COMM.
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 62 ATM 1991)

Peter G. Stathopoulos
S. Edward Eaton
Helga J. Jorgensen

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**(Appt. by Selectmen, MGL C51 S15, 18)**

Alice P. Granahan	2008
Betty Tower	2007
Virginia Gray	2006
Eileen A. McCracken, Town Clerk	

ROUTE 3 SOUTH TASK FORCE

Stephen Kelsch

SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE**(Appt. By Selectmen, ART 26 ATM 1975)**

Lisa Virello	2008
Scott Peterson	2008
Heidi Ford	2007
Frederick Hussey	2007
James MacAllen	2006
Francis Gaul	2006
Jean Montgomery	2006
Patricia Tomacek	2006
Vacancy	

SCHOOL FACILITY STUDY COMMITTEE**(ATM 2005 ART 22)**

Amy Happ (Selectmen Appt.)
Clement F. McCarey (Selectmen Appt.)
Kathleen M. Peters (Moderator Appt.)
John J. Slater, III (Moderator Appt.)
Patricia Wanty (School Committee Appt.)
Peter Bradley (School Committee Appt.)
Alan MacDonald (School Committee Appt.)

SOUTH SHORE COALITION**(Appt. By Selectmen, 3 Year Term)**

Mathew E. MacIver	2008
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SSCC LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen, 7/26/05)

Thomas Campbell
Kate Mahony
Mary O'Donnell
Bernard O'Neill
David Ramsdell
Kevin Taylor
James G. Welch

SOUTH SHORE JET NOISE COUNCIL

(Appointed By Selectmen, 1/4/2001)

Richard Goldhammer (Citizen Representative)

Mathew E. MacIver (Elected Official Representative)

SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE

(Appointed By Selectmen)

Joseph Stigliani

Helga Jorgensen

SOUTH WEYMOUTH NAVAL AIR STATION

Stephen Kelsch, Member CAC

Joseph Fisher, Member CAC

William Koplovsky, Rep. To the Advisory Board of the South Shore

Tri-Town Development Corp.

SPECIAL COMMISSION ON EQUITY OF FARES

(Appointed By Selectmen, 9/7/2004)

Martha Bewick

TAXATION AID FUND COMMITTEE

(Appt. by Selectmen, 11/15/05 MGL C60 S3D)

John J. Pollick

Ingrid Eikinas

Carolyn Kelliher

Greg Hall, Assessors

Jean Montgomery, Treasurer

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Charles J. Cristello

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Selectmen)

Police Chief

Fire Chief

Planning Board Chairman

Dept. of Public Works Superintendent

Leslie Kehoe

2008

Joseph Burton

2007

Philip Resca

2006

TREE WARDEN

Joseph Stigliani

John Bibby, Deputy Tree Warden

**WASTEWATER MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE
(ART 23 ATM 2004)**

John Brandt (Sewer Comm. Rep.)
Mathew MacIver (Selectmen Rep.)
Kirk Shilts (Board of Health Rep.)
Eugene Babin (Con. Comm. Rep.)
John Riley (Planning Board Rep.)
Richard Hull (Selectmen Appt.)
Mark White (Selectmen Appt.)
Iris Daigle (Moderator Appt.)
Francis Mahony, Jr. (Moderator Appt.)

**WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 11 ATM 1946)**

Gregory J. May
Roger W. Sullivan
Samuel S. Mullin
William C. Schrader
Kirk J. Shilts
Robert W. Stuart
Carolyn J. Nielsen

**WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR
(Appt. By Selectmen, MGL C98 S34)**

Harold Tuttle (Deputy)	2006
Charles Alexson (Deputy)	2006

WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE

Faith Burbank
Darrell Baker, Alternate

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 25, 2005**

REGISTERED VOTERS: 14,399 ATTENDANCE: 1,001

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts was held at the Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, on Monday, April 25, 2005. Thomas L. P. O'Donnell, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m., a quorum being present. James Conroy was appointed Assistant Moderator. The invocation was given by Cantor Steven Weiss of Congregation Sha'aray Shalom. Eileen McCracken, Town Clerk, read the call of the meeting. The following actions were taken on the articles contained in the warrant.

ARTICLES INDEX

1. Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund
2. County Cooperative Extension Service
3. Reports from various Town Committees
4. Report of the Personnel Board
5. Fix salaries of Town Officers
6. Budgets
7. Disbursement of Electric Light Department receipts
8. Assume liability for damages for DEM on rivers, harbors, etc.
9. Building Department Revolving Fund
10. Appropriate state highway funds for streets and sidewalks
11. Transfer money from Waterways Fund to Dredging Account
12. Transfer funds to the Reserve Fund
13. Transfer funds for tax reduction
14. Appropriate funds for Central Fire Station Building
15. Special legislation to connect Central Fire Station to MWRA sewer
16. Appropriate Community Preservation Funds – athletic fields
17. Appropriate Community Preservation Funds – open space
18. Appropriate Community Preservation Funds – historic resources
19. Appropriate Community Preservation Funds – administrative fund
20. Appropriate funds for athletic fields
21. Appropriate funds for DPW facility
22. Appropriate funds for school facility study
23. Amend clause 41C real estate tax exemptions
24. Military training
25. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Residence District D
26. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Definitions
27. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Building height
28. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Frontage
29. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Dwelling unit
30. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Residential use with farm use

31. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Affordability requirements
32. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Non-conforming uses
33. Project Turnabout/Bare Cove Park land transfer
34. Amend the Zoning By-Law re: Project Turnabout/Bare Cove Park
35. Amend the Town of Hingham By-Law re: Demolition Delay
36. Easement – Hingham Community Nursery School
37. Appropriate Funds for Ice Rink
38. Special Legislation re: Shipyard Improvement District
39. Special Legislation re: Short-term borrowing and betterments
40. Amend the Town of Hingham By-Law re: Solicitation
41. Special Legislation re: Site-specific liquor licenses
42. Affordable Housing
43. Peeping Tom By-Law
44. Disposition of Town-owned land
45. Increase Board of Selectmen to five members
46. Special Legislation re: Retirement Credit D. Lincoln
47. Special Legislation re: Retirement Credit G. Shaw
48. Easement – Ridgewood Crossing
49. Easement – Gardner Street
50. Easement – Cushing and Whiting Streets
51. Easement – Whitney Wharf Access
52. Transfer land to Conservation Commission – Geo. Washington Blvd.
53. Lease – Hersey Street
54. Lease – Building 132, 19 Fort Hill Street
55. Lease – Barnes Wharf
56. Lease – Steamboat/Barnes II Wharf
57. Land Acquisition for Mass. Highway
58. Street Acceptance – Brandon Woods Circle
59. Street Acceptance – Maryknoll Drive

Article 1

VOTED: Judith S. Belknap, 437 Main Street, be elected a member of the Committee to have charge of the income of the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund for a term of three years.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 2

VOTED: That the Town confirm the choice by the Selectmen of Marjorie Mahoney as Director to serve for one year as Director for the Plymouth County Cooperative Extension Service.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 3

VOTED: That the reports, if any, of the Animal Shelter Site Study Committee; Capital Outlay Committee; Central Fire Station Building Committee; Commission on Disability Issues; Community Preservation Committee; Conservation Commission; Country Club Management Committee; Council on Aging; Harbor Development Committee; Hingham Historic Districts Commission; the Historian; Historical Commission; Ice Rink Development Committee; Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee; Open Space Acquisition Committee; Public Works Building Committee; Regional Refuse Disposal Planning Committee; Scholarship Fund Committee; School Building Committee, Traffic Safety Study Committee, Wastewater Master Planning Committee and the Water Supply Committee be received, and that all of said Committees, Commissions, the Council and the Historian be continued, except that the Traffic Safety Study Committee be discharged with thanks.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 4

VOTED: That the report of the Personnel Board, a copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, be accepted; that the amendments of the Personnel By-Law, including the Classification and Salary Plan, and any agreements reached by the Personnel Board in collective bargaining, which may be embodied or referred to in said report, be approved and adopted in their entirety, such approval and adoption to become effective July 1, 2005 or as otherwise specified in said report or agreements; that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$419,916 for the purpose of this vote; and that the Town Accountant is hereby authorized and instructed to allocate said sum to and among the several Personal Services and Expense Accounts in such amounts, respectively, as are proper and required to meet such amendments and to comply with such collective bargaining agreements as may be entered into by the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 5

VOTED: That, subject to the proviso below, the salary from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 for each of the following officers shall be at the rates below stated or provided after the name of the office. Town Clerk¹ and Treasurer/Collector in accordance with the compensation rates established in Grade 15 of the Town of Hingham Classification and

Compensation Plan of the Personnel By-Law.

Selectmen: at the annual rate of \$2,000.00 each, except that the Chair for the period of incumbency shall receive an annual rate of \$2,500.00.

Assessors: at the annual rate of \$1,800.00 each, except that the Chair for the period of incumbency shall receive an annual rate of \$2,000.00.

Municipal Light Board: at the annual rate of \$214.00 each (to be paid from the receipts of the Electric Light Department).

Provided: that the salary of each such officer except Selectman, Assessor and Municipal Light Board Member shall be reduced by all retirement allowances and pensions received by such officer from the Town of Hingham.

1 Town Clerk, when serving as a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters, shall be paid for such duties in accordance with Section 19G of Chapter 41 of the General Laws.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 6

VOTED: That there be raised and appropriated for each of the following purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, the sum of money stated therefor, provided that where a transfer appropriation is stated, the amount so indicated shall be transferred or specifically appropriated as stated; also that the authority is hereby given to turn in vehicles and equipment in part payment for vehicles and equipment purchased in those cases where a turn in is stated.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 7

VOTED: That, with the exception of \$429,975 which is hereby transferred to the General Fund to reduce the tax rate, all funds received by the Municipal Lighting Plant during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2005, be appropriated to said Municipal Lighting Plant, the same to be expended by the Manager of Municipal Lighting under the control and direction of the Municipal Light Board for the expenses of the Plant for said fiscal year, as defined in Sections 57 and 57A of Chapter 164 of the Massachusetts General Laws and, if there should be any unexpended balance thereof at the end of said fiscal year, such amount as is deemed necessary shall be transferred to the Construction Fund of said Plant and

appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may be authorized by the Municipal Light Board during the next fiscal year.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 8

VOTED: That the Town, in accordance with, and to the extent only permitted by, General Laws, Chapter 91, Section 29, assume liability for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Department of Environmental Management of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tidewaters, foreshores and shores along a public beach within the Town, in accordance with Section 11 of said Chapter 91, and that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity to the Commonwealth assuming such liability.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 9

VOTED: That, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, which allows the Town to establish departmental revolving funds, the Town authorizes the continuation of such a fund in the Building Department. Departmental receipts for building inspections performed by the Assistant Building Inspectors shall be credited to the fund. Moneys shall be spent only to compensate such inspectors for their services. No moneys shall be spent for wages or salaries of full-time municipal employees. The Building Commissioner shall be authorized to spend moneys from the fund. The amount that may be spent from the fund shall be limited to \$350,000 during Fiscal Year 2006.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 10

VOTED: That, subject to the appropriation of \$407,524 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Transportation Bond Bill, the Town transfer from available funds the sum of \$407,524 as the state's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, for the resurfacing, maintenance, improvement, design, construction and/or reconstruction of Hingham streets and sidewalks.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 11

VOTED: That the Town transfer \$30,000 from the Waterways Fund to the Dredging Fund, such account to be used for the future dredging of Hingham Harbor, and the Town accept and credit said account with funds from State and Federal Governments for that purpose.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 12

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$250,000 from available reserves and \$100,000 from the overlay surplus to the Reserve Fund for use during Fiscal Year 2005.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 13

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$178,391 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reducing the fiscal year 2006 tax rate.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Majority Vote

Article 14

VOTED: That the sum of \$3,934,750 is hereby appropriated for the purpose of remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Central Fire Station, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended at the direction of the Central Fire Station Building Committee, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$3,434,750 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and the additional sum of \$500,000 shall be transferred from available reserves.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Standing Vote Taken

Yes 651

No 143

Motion Adopted

Article 15

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation to permit the Central Fire Station at 339 Main Street to connect to the MWRA sewer system.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 16

VOTED: That the Town appropriate \$1,110,000 from the Community Preservation General Reserve, such amount to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, for architectural and engineering design development, permitting, professional fees and construction of new athletic fields in Bare Cove/School Depot property, including other costs incidental and related, to carry out this project; provided, that this appropriation be contingent on the favorable action by the Town under Article 20.

No Action Taken

A Majority Vote

Article 17

VOTED: That the Town appropriate \$50,000 from the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve for deposit to the Town's Conservation Fund established pursuant to MGL ch. 40, §8C for use by the Conservation Commission, subject to the approval of the Open Space Acquisition Committee, for appraisals, engineering studies and other expenses ("pre-acquisition costs") associated with the acquisition of interests in open space for conservation in accordance with the requirements of the Community Preservation Act, and to make deposits or down payments toward the acquisition of such interests in open space, provided, however, that completion of any such acquisition shall require the approval of Town Meeting.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 18 – Each Item Voted and Discussed Separately

VOTED: That the Town (a) appropriate \$106,050 from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Reserve, such amount to

be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, as follows:

(i) \$36,050 for the reconstruction of the historic sign on the Torrent Firehouse (Hingham Fire Station 2, 230 North Street);

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Majority Vote

2/3rds Declared

Motion Adopted

(ii) \$40,000 for an architectural conservation survey of Old Ship Church; and

A Unanimous Vote

(iii) \$30,000 for rehabilitation of GAR Hall; and (b) authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire historic preservation easements with respect to items (i) and (iii) on such terms as such Board deems in the best interest of the Town, or act on anything relating thereto?

A Majority Vote

Meeting Adjourned 11:20 PM

**Second Session
April 26, 2005**

Registered Voters: 14,399

Attendance: 833

Reconvened: 7:14 PM

Article 19

VOTED: That the Town appropriate \$50,000 from the Community Preservation General Reserve for addition to the Community Preservation Committee's operating and administrative fund.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 20 That the sum of \$1,085,312 be appropriated for the construction of municipal outdoor recreational and athletic fields, including the development of land and the construction of facilities, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow the sum of \$1,085,312 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(25) of the General Laws, or

pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Standing Vote Taken

Yes 380

No 279

Motion Failed

Article 21

VOTED: That \$300,000 be transferred from surplus revenue to be expended under the direction of the Public Works Building Committee for architectural and engineering design development, permitting, professional fees and construction of a DPW cold storage building as the initial phase of a new consolidated Public Works facility in the School Depot property, including other costs incidental and related, to carry out this project and its finances.

A Majority Vote

Article 22

VOTED: That the Town (1) establish a School Facility Study Committee: 2 members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, 2 members to be appointed by the Moderator and 3 members to be appointed by the School Committee, and the chair of said Committee to be jointly designated by the appointing authorities; and (2) transfer from Municipal Light Plant funds, the sum of \$90,000 to be expended under the direction of the School Facility Study Committee to develop a ten-year school facility plan that addresses current and anticipated school space needs.

A Majority Vote

Article 23

VOTED: That the Town adopt MGL C 59 Sec. 5(41C) as amended, which would allow a change in the age, income limits, asset limits and the exemption amount of all clause 41C elderly exemptions, to adjust the income level of \$13,000 to \$20,000 and the exemption amount of \$500 to \$1,000.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 24

VOTED: That the Town adopt a provision of the Massachusetts General Laws which would change the manner in which it compensates employees who are also members of military reserve units during their annual training commitment so that employees on reserve status will receive up to 17 days of full pay without reduction for any compensation received from their military unit.

A Majority Vote

Article 25

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, in the "Zoning Map, Part A, Town of Hingham", both as heretofore amended, by removing from Residence District D, and including in Residence District A, the following parcels shown on the Town of Hingham Assessors' Map:

131/088-12	34 Butler Road
131/088-14	36 Butler Road
131/088-25	48 Smith Road
131/088-26	46 Smith Road
131/088-27	44 Smith Road
131/088-28	42 Smith Road
131/088-29	40 Smith Road
131/088-30	38 Smith Road
131/088-31	36 Smith Road
131/088-32	34 Smith Road
131/098-7	30 Smith Road
131/88-33	32 Smith Road
131/098-6	28 Smith Road
131/099-1	26 Smith Road
131/099-2	24 Smith Road
131/099-4	20 Smith Road
131/099-5	18 Smith Road
131/099-6	14 Smith Road
131/099-7	8 Smith Road
131/099-8	6 Smith Road
131/099-9	81 Hobart Street
131/099-10	77 Hobart Street
131/099-11	75 Hobart Street
131/099-13	63/65 Hobart Street
131/099-14	59 Hobart Street
131/099-15	55 Hobart Street
131/098-13	1 Golf View Drive
131/098-14	3 Golf View Drive

131/098-15	5 Golf View Drive
131/098-16	7 Golf View Drive
131/098-17	9 Golf View Drive
131/098-18	11 Golf View Drive
131/098-19	15 Golf View Drive
131/098-20	17 Golf View Drive
131/098-21	16 Golf View Drive
131/098-22	14 Golf View Drive
131/098-23	12 Golf View Drive
131/098-24	10 Golf View Drive
131/098-25	8 Golf View Drive
131/098-26	6 Golf View Drive
131/098-27	4 Golf View Drive
131/098-28	2 Golf View Drive
131/070-16	262 South Street
131/070-113	264 South Street
131/079-114	266 South Street

Item 2 At Section III-A, 1.1, delete the sentence "Subject to special condition 4 of Section III-B"

Item 3 At Section III-B, delete #4, and insert the words "Intentionally left blank."

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED
A Unanimous Vote

Article 26

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1. At Section VI-Definitions, modify the definition of "Basement" by replacing it in its entirety as follows:

"Basement

that portion of a Building which is partly or completely below Finished Grade. See also definition of Story (above grade)."

Item 2. At Section VI, Definitions, between the definitions for Garden Apartment and Gross Floor Area, add the following:

"Grade, Finished

the topography of a site at the completion of construction.

Grade Plane

a reference plane representing the average of Finished Grade intersecting the Building at all exterior walls. Where the Finished

Grade slopes away from the exterior walls, the reference plane for such side of the Building shall be established by using, instead of the measurement at the Building, the average of the lowest points within the area between the Building and the lot line or, where the lot line is more than 10 feet from the Building, between the Building and a point 10 feet from the Building.

Grade, Pre-Construction

the existing topography of a site prior to any disturbance for new construction. This must be certified by a registered professional civil engineer or land surveyor.”

Item 3. At Section VI, Definitions, between the definitions for Half-Story (1/2 Story) and Home Occupation, add the following:

“Height, Building

the vertical distance from Grade Plane to the height of the highest roof surface, peak or parapet. See also Section IV-C, 8 for general height exceptions.”

Item 4. At Section VI-Definitions, modify the definition of “story” by replacing it in its entirety as follows:

“Story (above grade)

that portion of a Building included between the upper surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above having its finished floor surface entirely above Finished Grade, except that a Basement shall be considered as a Story (above grade) where the finished surface of the floor above the Basement is:

1. more than five feet above the highest elevation of Pre-Construction Grade where it intersects the building perimeter wall at any point; or
2. more than six feet above Grade Plane; or
3. more than six feet above the Finished Grade where it intersects the perimeter wall for more than 50% of the total building perimeter; or
4. more than 12 feet above the Finished Grade where it intersects the perimeter wall at any point.

See also definitions of Half Story (1/2 Story) and Basement.”

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Standing Vote

Yes 460

No 49

Motion Adopted

Article 27

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1: At Section IV-A, Schedule of Dimensional Requirements, for Residence District A, Residence District B, Residence District C, Town House in Residence District D, and Residence District E, under the column "maximum height", add 35' under the sub-column "feet" and under the column "special requirements applicable to each district" add "16".

Item 2: At Section IV-B, add Special Requirement #16 as follows:

"16. In no event shall the Height of any residential Building be higher than thirty-five (35) feet measured from Grade Plane, and in no event shall the highest roof surface, peak or parapet be more than forty (40) feet above the Finished Grade where it intersects the perimeter wall at any point. See also the Building Height Diagram in Annex A."

Item 3: At Section IV (D), 9 (a) change Maximum Height from 2 ½ stories to 2 ½ stories and thirty-five (35) feet.

Item 4: Add to the end of the By-law, a new section "Annex A - Building Height Diagram".

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Standing Vote Taken

Yes 235

No 117

Motion Failed

Meeting Adjourned 11:01 PM

Third Session

May 2, 2005

Registered Voters: 14,399

Attendance: 840

Reconvened: 7:10 PM

Article 28

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1 At Section IV-A, Schedule of Dimensional Requirements, at the rows entitled Business District A and Official and Open Space District, under the column entitled “frontage”, add the dimension “20”.

Item 2 At Section IV-C, General Intensity Provisions, Item 5, Exempted Lots, change the word “width” to “frontage” throughout.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED
A Unanimous Vote

Article 29

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Replace Section IV-C (4) General Intensity Provisions, Density, in its entirety with the following: “Unless otherwise expressly permitted in this by-law, no more than one dwelling unit shall be located on any single lot.”

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED
A Unanimous Vote

Article 30

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

At Section III-A, Schedule of Uses,

At subsection 2.1, remove the final phrase “including one single-family dwelling for resident proprietor.”

Add a new subsection Section 2.1.1 “Single family dwelling for resident proprietor of 2.1, Farm-Agricultural, orchard or plant nursery” permitted in Residence Districts A, B, C, permitted with a Special Permit A-1 in Residence Districts D and E; prohibited in Office Park, Waterfront Business, Waterfront Recreation; permitted with a Special Permit A1 in Industrial and Industrial Park; prohibited in Limited Industrial Park; and permitted with a Special Permit A-1 in Business Recreation and Official and Open Space.

At Section 2.2, remove the final phrase “including one single-family dwelling for resident proprietor.”

Add a new subsection, 2.2.1 “Single family dwelling for resident proprietor of 2.2, Farm-Livestock and Poultry” permitted with a Special

Permit A-1 in Residence Districts A,B,C,D and E; prohibited in Office Park, Waterfront Business, Waterfront Recreation; permitted with a Special Permit A-1 in Industrial and Industrial Park; prohibited in Limited Industrial Park; and permitted with a Special Permit A-1 in Business Recreation and Official and Open Space.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Unanimous Vote

Article 31

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1. At Section IV-E, add a new subsection 5, as follows:

5. Affordable Units

a. All Residential Multi-Family Developments, as defined in this Section IV-E shall include Low or Moderate Income Housing as defined in Section IV-D, provided that the minimum specifications shall be as set forth herein. For projects with six or less dwelling units per acre, at least ten percent (10%) of such units shall be Low and Moderate Income Housing. For projects with more than six dwelling units per acre, at least fifteen percent (15%) of such units shall be Low or Moderate Income Housing. In the event such percentage results in a fractional number, such number shall be rounded up.

b. Any Town House dwelling unit intended as Low or Moderate Income Housing shall have a minimum gross floor area of 1200 square feet. Any dwelling unit in a Garden Apartment or Apartment House development intended as Low or Moderate Income Housing shall have the minimum square footage set forth in subsection 1.h hereof.

c. The number of studio, one, two or three bedroom Low and Moderate Income Housing dwelling units shall be in direct proportion to the such market rate dwelling units within the development (e.g., if 20% of the market rate dwelling units are two bedrooms, then 20% of the Low and Moderate Income Housing dwelling units must be two bedrooms).

d. Low or Moderate Income Housing (i) shall not be segregated on the site, (ii) shall be designed in the same architectural style and constructed with building materials comparable to any market dwelling units constructed on the site, and (iii) shall be constructed simultaneously and in the same proportion as the construction of market rate dwelling units in the development; and

e. It shall be a condition of the approval of a Special Permit that the procedure for the sale or rental of the Low or Moderate Income Housing shall be in writing and approved by the Hingham Housing Authority (or such other board or authority granted jurisdiction over affordable housing units by the Town) prior to the issuance of a building permit for the site. To the extent permitted by applicable law, preference shall be given in the sale or rental of Low and Moderate Income Housing units to (i) persons currently residing in the Town for at least 24 consecutive months and (ii) persons who have previously resided in the Town for at least ten (10) years and (iii) persons who are currently employed by the Town for at least 24 consecutive months for a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week. The applicant shall cooperate in all respects, at applicant's sole cost and expense, with any Local Initiative Program application to be filed by the Town in connection with such development and such cooperation shall be a condition to the issuance of any certificate of occupancy for any dwelling unit within the development.

Item 2. Modify Section IV(F) 2 (c) by replacing the reference to "Section IV(D) 4" with a reference to Section IV(D) 8.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Standing Vote Taken

Yes 422

No 51

Motion Adopted

Article 32

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

At the end of section III-H (4), add the following phrase: "provided, however, that the non-conforming use of more than one dwelling unit within an existing dwelling (as set forth on the list on file at the Hingham Building Department dated April 25, 2005 and amended by the Building Commissioner from time to time as needed) shall not be terminated unless such dwelling has been converted to a single-family detached dwelling with complete living facilities for only one household."

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Unanimous Vote

Article 33

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to: (1) sell or transfer a parcel of land containing

approximately 2.72 acres shown as Lot A on a plan entitled "Proposed Zoning Plan of Land, 224 Beal Street, Hingham, MA 02043," prepared by Coler & Colantonio, dated March 14, 2005, as amended on March 28, 2005 (the "Plan"), for the minimum consideration of \$1.00, and to grant easements benefiting said Lot A and Lot B shown on the Plan over (a) existing roadways (which may be relocated from time to time by the Town) for emergency access and (b) a portion of land southerly of Lot C on the Plan for connection to an existing sewer line; (2) acquire a parcel of land containing approximately 2.48 acres shown as Lot C on the Plan for the minimum consideration of \$1.00, and utility easements over Lot A and Lot C on the Plan appurtenant to other land of the Town of Hingham; and (3) petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation to effect the transfer or sale of Lot A, all on the terms and conditions set forth in the Development Agreement between the Board of Selectmen and the Thomas J. Hastings Co. LLC.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Majority Vote

2/3rds Declared

Motion Adopted

Article 34

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, by amending the "Zoning Map, Part A, Town of Hingham," as heretofore amended, as follows: (1) by removing from the Official and Open Space District and including in the Residence District E, a parcel of land shown as Lot A on a plan entitled "Proposed Zoning Plan of Land, 224 Beal Street, Hingham, MA 02043," prepared by Coler & Colantonio, dated March 14, 2005, as amended on March 28, 2005 (the "Plan"); (2) by removing from the Office Park District and including in Residence District E a parcel of land shown as Lot B on the Plan; and (3) by removing from the Office Park District and including in the Official and Open Space District a parcel of land shown as Lot C on the Plan.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

A Majority Vote

2/3rds Declared

Motion Adopted

Article 35 – Article Withdrawn

A Unanimous Vote

Article 36

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen, for consideration on such terms as it deems to be in the best interests of the Town, and subject to the "Agreement between and among the Hingham Police Department, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hingham and the Hingham Community Nursery School, Inc." and the "School Committee's Requested List of Conditions Related to the Rosemary's Lane Easement Annual Town Meeting Article April 2005", to grant an easement to Hingham Community Nursery School, Inc. a Massachusetts not for profit corporation with a principal place of business at 171 Main Street, Hingham, Massachusetts, (the "Nursery School") and non-exclusive license, to be used in common with others having a like right, to use for a driveway for the purpose of ingress and egress by foot or vehicle, and for the installation, construction and maintenance of connecting pipes, conduits, wires, manholes or other appurtenances necessary for the transmission of gas, electricity, telephone or intelligence, water or sewer service to existing utility pipes and lines under or above Rosemary Lane that, said driveway being located and described as follows:

That strip of land approximately 50 feet in width and approximately 323.9 feet in length, and running from Main Street, Westerly, being a portion of the paved and unpaved portions of the driveway commonly known as Rosemary Lane in the Town of Hingham, and also being a portion of the premises conveyed to the Town of Hingham by the deed of Connor dated September 27, 1960 and recorded in Plymouth Registry of Deeds in Book 2804, Page 476, and also subject to a Taking by the Town dated June 14, 1961 and recorded in said Deeds in Book 2856, Page 310, said easement to be for the benefit of a non-profit educational institution, and for no other purpose.

A Majority Vote

Article 37

VOTED: That a Municipal Ice Rink Building and Financial Review Committee of seven (7) persons be, and hereby is, established for the purpose of designing, constructing and creating a municipal ice rink, four members of said committee to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and three members of said committee to be appointed by the Moderator and the chair of said committee to be designated jointly by the Board of Selectmen and the Moderator; and that \$100,000 be and hereby is transferred from available reserves for the purpose of 1) conducting comparative site feasibility analysis of possible rink sites at the School Depot/Bare Cove Park Land (and additionally such other site or sites, if any, as the Committee in its judgment considers it appropriate to explore,

excluding the South Shore Country Club) to address such topics as traffic, parking, environmental impacts, and site preparation/ construction costs and 2) initiating permitting discussions with the appropriate town regulatory bodies and engaging such architectural, engineering and other consultants as the committee deems necessary or appropriate for said work, including other costs incidental and related thereto; and that said funds be expended under the direction of said committee in order to bring to the 2006 Annual Town Meeting a definitive site recommendation and related construction cost estimates, together with an updated set of financial projections and related assumptions for ongoing operations of the proposed rink as well as their overall recommendations for the management and operation of such a facility.

A Majority Vote

Standing Vote Taken

Yes 213

No 284

Motion Failed

Meeting Adjourned 12:15 A.M.

Fourth Session

May 3, 2005

Registered Voters: 14,399

Attendance: 359

Reconvened: 8:30 PM

Article 38

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact special legislation establishing the Hingham Shipyard Improvement District, a body politic and corporate, independent from the Town, which will assume all financial liability for the capital and operating costs associated with certain existing, proposed and future public improvements within the boundaries of the district, and be empowered to purchase, own, maintain, construct, reconstruct and operate such public improvements, including streets, parking facilities, sidewalks, water and sewer lines and related facilities, and fiber optic and telecommunications links, to take property within the District by eminent domain, to borrow funds for capital improvements and to assess betterments, assessments and fees in relation thereto and to support operating expenses, to enter into such contracts as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the District, and to exercise such additional powers as shall be defined in the special act, a summary of which is available at the office of the Town Clerk; provided that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the

Board of Selectmen approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and the Board of Selectmen are authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 39

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation authorizing the Town of Hingham to issue temporary loans for periods greater than 2 years, and allow the Town to charge the Town's actual interest costs to betterment assessments issued by the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 40

VOTED: That the Town amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by eliminating the current Article 36, Solicitation, and replacing it with the following:

ARTICLE 36 – SOLICITATION

SECTION 1 – Definitions

As used in this By-Law, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated:

a. 'Solicitor' shall include the following: any person who, for himself or another person, firm, corporation, group or organization travels by foot, automobile, or any type of conveyance from place to place, house to house, or from street to street, taking orders or attempting to take orders for goods, wares, merchandise, services or securing or attempting to secure donations.

Solicitor shall also include any person requesting directly or indirectly any money, credit, property, financial assistance or any thing of value in exchange for goods or services.

Solicitor shall not include any person who secures money, credit, property, financial assistance or any other thing of value on the plea or representation that it will be used for a charitable or religious purpose or that it is to be exchanged for any such goods or services.

b. 'Charitable' shall mean and include the words patriotic, philanthropic, social service, welfare, benevolent, educational, civic or fraternal, either actual or purported.

c. 'Religious' and 'religion' as used herein shall not mean and include the word 'charitable' as herein defined, but shall be given their commonly accepted definitions.

d. 'Person' shall mean any individual, firm, co-partnership, corporation, company, association, or joint stock association, church, religious sect, religious denomination, society, organization or league, and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, agent or other representative thereof.

SECTION 2

No solicitor or any person as defined in Section 1 shall enter upon the property of a resident or business which is affixed with a sign prohibiting solicitors or canvassers or any similar signs prohibiting trespassers or entry onto property.

SECTION 3

All solicitors as defined in Section 1 must obtain a license from the Hingham Police Department and register as a solicitor prior to soliciting within the Town of Hingham. All solicitors must have said license in their possession when soliciting within the Town of Hingham.

SECTION 4

The Police Chief shall make available an application entitled "APPLICATION FOR SOLICITATION LICENSE". The applicant shall forward the completed application to the Police Chief. The Police Chief shall review the application. Within twenty days of the receipt of the application, the Police Chief shall issue a solicitation license or deny the application. If the Police Chief denies said application, he shall issue a written decision stating the reasons for the denial. Within twenty days of any such denial, the applicant can request a meeting with the Police Chief to review the reasons for said denial. After any such meeting, the Police Chief shall either grant the application for a solicitation license or affirm the previous denial.

SECTION 5

No license for solicitation shall be granted by the Police Chief unless the Police Chief finds that the applicant has presented substantial evidence of the goods or services he is proposing to solicit.

SECTION 6 – Penalties

If due notice is given of a violation of this Article and that such a violation continues thereafter on the date of such notice, such a continuation shall constitute a separate offense. Each day thereafter that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. Any person who commits a violation of this Article shall be punished by a fine of \$100.00 for each such offense.

SECTION 7

Each provision of this Article shall be deemed independent of all other provisions hereof, and it is further the intention of the Town of Hingham that, if any provision of this Article is declared invalid, all other provisions shall remain valid and enforceable.

A Majority Vote

Article 41

VOTED: That the Town authorize but not require the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation to make site specific the following All Alcoholic Beverages Licenses: (1) South Shore Catering Group Inc, South Shore Country Club, 274 South Street and (2) Linden Ponds Inc., d/b/a Linden Ponds, 300 Linden Ponds Way.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 42

VOTED: That the Town authorize but not require the Board of Selectmen, with the advice and assistance of the Hingham Housing Partnership, to (1) issue a Request for Proposal and (2) select one or more qualified for-profit or non-profit housing development organizations for the purpose of transferring, conveying and/or leasing under MGL Chapter 30B, approximately 10 acres of land now owned by the Town of Hingham located in a part of Assessors' Map 69 Parcel 44, all for the purpose of producing affordable housing under the Local Initiative Program, subject to the following conditions:

1. The project will contain a reasonable number of dwelling units for the site ranging from a minimum of 20 to a maximum of 40.
2. The project will include a mix of low and moderate income housing, targeted at individuals earning 50%, 80%, 100% and 120% of the area's median income levels.

3. All units will be owner occupied.
4. The project will be screened from Beal Street, adjacent neighborhoods and adjacent town facilities by means of a vegetative buffer at least 100' in width.
5. Affordability standards for the project will be enforced by deed restrictions and any other means necessary to ensure affordability in perpetuity.
6. The maximum local preference authorized by the Local Initiative Program shall be followed in selecting applicants for the dwelling units.
7. The development must be architecturally compatible in size and appearance with the surrounding neighborhood, conform to local height restrictions and minimize negative impacts on the environment.

Project approval will be subject to review by appropriate permitting boards at posted public meetings.

A Majority Vote

Article 43

VOTED: That the Town amend the General By-Laws of the Town of Hingham, as heretofore amended, at Article 10, Section 30 regarding peeping, spying or invading privacy, inserted at the request of residents.

No Action Taken A Majority Vote

Article 44

VOTED: That the Town amend the General By-Laws of the Town of Hingham adopted March 13, 1939 as heretofore amended, by adding a new Section 4A to Article 5 as follows:

Section 4A – In addition to such other requirements as are established by law, the Board of Selectmen shall not transfer or dispose of real property of the Town unless Town Meeting, by majority vote, has approved the use or uses intended for the property upon its disposition. For purposes of this section, Town real property shall mean any land and/or buildings owned, held or controlled in the name of the Town by the Board of Selectmen, the School Committee or Conservation Commission. Intended use or uses of the property shall refer only to the

use or uses of the property immediately after disposition and approval of the use shall not operate as a restriction on the property thereafter.

A Majority Vote

Article 45

VOTED: That the Town adopt and approve the changing of the appropriate Articles(s) that allows the Town to elect and the Board of Selectmen to operate with three (3) Selectmen and change it to allow the Town to elect and the Board of Selectmen to operate with five (5) Selectmen or take action relative thereto?

No Action Taken

A Majority Vote

Article 46

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation authorizing the Town of Hingham to grant Donald Lincoln retirement service credit for his service time as a Town of Hingham permanent call firefighter in recognition of his continued service to the Town of Hingham.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 47

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation authorizing the Town of Hingham to grant Glenn Shaw retirement service credit for his service time as a Town of Hingham permanent call firefighter in recognition of his continued service to the Town of Hingham.

A Majority Vote

Article 48

VOTED: That the Town (1) authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift from the developer of the Ridgewood Crossing development, which development is located off French Street in Hingham, a drainage easement with regard to the drainage of Woodlock Road; and (2) authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift from the developer of the Ridgewood Crossing development a drainage

easement with regard to the drainage of Snake Pond to assist in the drainage and stormwater management of the abutting neighborhoods.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 49

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to acquire by donation or purchase land parcels or easements for the purpose of obtaining a secure and public right of way for roadway and sidewalk improvements in Gardner Street as shown on Coler & Colantonio Exhibit A-1 titled Proposed Permanent Sidewalk Easements #205-209 Gardner Street and Exhibit B-1 titled Proposed Permanent Sidewalk Easements #189-205 Gardner Street.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 50

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to acquire by donation, purchase or eminent domain land parcels or easements for the purpose of obtaining a secure and public right of way for roadway and sidewalk improvements in Cushing Street shown on Assessors' Map 187, Key 17.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 51

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to (1) acquire by donation, purchase or eminent domain an easement across a parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 50 to provide pedestrian access to a bridge connecting the Town Landing to Whitney Wharf Park and (2) grant access to other areas of town-owned land in connection with said acquisition.

2/3rds VOTE REQUIRED

Majority Not Declared

Motion Failed

Article 52

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer the care, custody and control of a parcel of approximately 3 acres shown as Lot #2 on the Town Assessors' Map 21 from the Board of Selectmen to the Conservation Commission.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 53

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to lease a parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 79 for use by the Department of Public Works as a storage area for road salt and related equipment.

A Majority Vote

Article 54

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease for a portion of Building 132, 19 Fort Hill Street, located in the former Hingham Naval Ammunition Depot, as shown on Assessors' Map 69 known as School Tract 1, for use by a federal credit union for its Hingham branch office.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 55

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen, for consideration on such terms as it deems in the best interest of the Town, to enter into a non-exclusive, short-term lease (not more than 10 years) with a non-profit sailing and rowing club currently known as the Lincoln Maritime Center for a portion of the parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 51, Lot 58, and known as Barnes Wharf.

A Majority Vote

Article 56

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen for consideration on such terms as it deems in the best interest of the town, to enter into a lease with a non-profit sailing club for a portion of the parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 51, Lot 59, and known as Barnes Wharf II and/or Steamboat Wharf.

A Majority Vote

Article 57

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court to acquire that portion of the former Naval Ammunition Depot in the Town currently under the control of the Massachusetts Highway Department.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 58

VOTED: That the Town accept the laying out, as a Town way, of a way beginning at the intersection of Maryknoll Drive, running in an easterly direction a distance of 384 feet, more or less, through a turnaround, as shown on plan entitled: "Roadway Acceptance Plan & Profile Maryknoll Drive, Hingham, MA", dated September 23, 2004, prepared by Coler & Colantonio, Inc., Engineers and Scientists, as revised from time to time, and the name Brandon Woods Circle be given said way.

A Unanimous Vote

Article 59

VOTED: That the Town accept the laying out, as a Town way, of a way beginning at the intersection of Charles Street, running in an easterly direction a distance of 2,385 feet, more or less, through a turnaround, as shown on plan entitled: "Roadway Acceptance Plan & Profile Maryknoll Drive, Hingham, MA", dated September 23, 2004, prepared by Coler & Colantonio, Inc., Engineers and Scientists, as revised from time to time, and the name Maryknoll Drive be given said way.

A Unanimous Vote

Meeting Adjourned 12:12 A.M.

CASH APPROPRIATIONS**2006****Article 4**

Personnel Board	\$419,916
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Article 5

Elected Officials	8,279
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Article 6

General Government

122	Selectmen	
	Payroll	340,229
	Expenses	30,756

132	Reserve Fund	400,000
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135	Town Accountant	
	Payroll	270,409
	Expenses	33,090
	Capital Outlay	40,000
	(\$40,000 from excess overlay)	
	Audit	38,000
	Information Technology	63,145

141	Assessors	
	Payroll	221,126
	Expenses	9,670
	Consulting	7,500
	Map Maintenance	4,000

145	Treasurer/Collector	
	Payroll	227,898
	Expenses	39,900
	Tax Title	10,000

151	Legal Services	140,000
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159	Town Meeting	
	Payroll	2,692
	Expenses	14,875
161	Town Clerk	
	Payroll	126,978
	Expenses	6,411
162	Elections	
	Payroll	14,320
	Expenses	12,320
171	Conservation	
	Payroll	109,567
	Expenses	11,885
175	Planning Board	
	Payroll	95,957
	Expenses	9,145
176	Board of Appeals	
	Payroll	74,528
	Expenses	5,885
177	Bare Cove Park	
	Payroll	10,253
	Expenses	4,440
191	Hersey House	
	Expenses	4,522
192	Town Hall	
	Payroll	125,626
	Expenses	284,066
	Capital Outlay (\$10,000 from excess overlay)	10,000
193	Grand Army Memorial Hall	5,752

Public Safety

210	Police Department	
	Payroll (Overtime \$282,331)	3,287,510
	Expenses	214,462
	Capital Outlay	178,358
	(\$178,358 from Available reserves)	
220	Fire Department	
	Payroll (Overtime \$271,305)	3,180,779
	Expenses	214,462
	Capital Outlay	197,500
	(197,500 from available reserves)	
230	Dispatch Services	
	Payroll (Overtime \$46,148)	353,187
	Expenses	5,600
241	Building Commissioner	
	Payroll	165,290
	Expenses	6,995
244	Weights and Measures	
	Payroll	9,108
	Expenses	650
291	Emergency Management	
	Payroll	5,000
	Expenses	2,693
292	Animal Control	
	Payroll	45,199
	Expenses	7,400
295	Harbormaster	
	Payroll	64,510
	Expenses	21,350

299	Public Safety Utilities	
	Emergency Water	297,300
	Street Lighting	125,000
Education		
300	School Department	
	Payroll	22,412,498
	Expenses	5,790,997
	Capital Outlay	531,100
	(\$531,100 from available reserves)	
Public Works and Facilities		
410	Selectmen's Engineering	20,000
420	Highway/Recreation/Tree & Park	
	Payroll (Overtime \$25,161)	1,393,572
	Expenses	251,847
	Capital Outlay	179,500
	(\$179,500 from available reserves)	
	Snow Removal	187,742
	Resurfacing (\$100,000) from	306,500
	available reserves)	
430	Landfill/recycling	
	Payroll (Overtime \$15,914)	343,704
	Expenses	986,581
	Capital Outlay (\$43,000 from	43,000
	excess overlay)	
440	Sewer Commission	
	Payroll	220,015
	Expenses	155,915
	New Equipment	41,500
	Engineering	70,000
	MWRA Charges	1,339,918
	Debt Service	79,306

	Hull Intermunicipal Agreement	75,000
	\$1,981,659 shall be funded from	
	Sewer revenue	
	Human Services	
510	Health Department	
	Payroll	220,167
	Expenses	18,994
541	Elder Services	
	Payroll	131,960
	Expenses	55,510
	Tax Work Off Program	12,000
543	Veterans' Services	
	Payroll	30,241
	Expenses	5,450
	Benefits	160,000
545	Womansplace Crisis Center	2,500
546	South Shore Women's Center	3,500
	Culture and Recreation	
610	Library	
	Payroll	906,692
	Expenses	192,924
	Capital Outlay	31,800
	(\$31,800 from excess overlay)	
630	Recreation Commission	
	Payroll	142,789
	Expenses	5,239
650	Trustees of Bathing Beach	
	Payroll	14,046
	Expenses	1,575

691	Historical Commission	
	Payroll	22,722
	Expenses	5,585
692	Celebrations	9,000

Enterprise Fund

720 Country Club 1,364,000
The total sum of \$1,364,000 shall be funded from Country Club revenue. In addition, the Country Club is authorized to distribute to the General Fund \$400,000 from Retained Earnings.

Debt Service

710	Maturing Debt-Excluded	5,198,751
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Employee Benefits

900	Contributory Group Insurance	3,052,726
910	Contributory Retirement	2,261,902
911	Non-Contributory Pensions	36,000
912	Workers' Compensation	200,000
913	Unemployment	20,000
914	Mandatory Medicare	374,000

Unclassified

901	Insurance	429,000
	Fire, Public Liability, Property Damage, etc.	

904	Claims and Incidentals	
	Claims and Incidentals	12,540
	Greenbush Legal and Consulting	60,000
	Article 4, 5, & 6 TOTAL	\$60,911,693
	Article 11	
	Waterways Fund	30,000
	Article 13	
	Debt Service	243,391
	Article 17 Central Fire Station Architecture and Design Central Fire Station Architecture and Design Station Professional Fess	236,458
	(\$13,542 from excess overlay)	13,542
	Article 18	
	DPW cold storage facility	395,000
	(395,000 from excess overlay)	
	Article 19	
	CPC- Historic Resources	
	Liberty Plain Cemetery-replace fence	47,500
	Old Ship Meetinghouse-cast fence	35,066
	Hingham Cemetery-Rehab burial lot	10,000
	Hingham Square-Streetscape rehab	35,000
	Article 20	
	CPC-Open Space	
	Purchase-6.46Acres (Nokomis Rd)	17,000
	Total Other Articles	\$1,062,957
	Total Appropriations All Articles	\$61,974,650

Articles Authorized to be Borrowed

Article 16

South Shore Country Club-Irrigation System	17,000,000
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Article 22

Sewer Construction-Green Street Court	75,000
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Article 23

Wastwater Master Planning Committee	400,000
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Total Borrowings

17,475,000

TOWN ELECTION

APRIL 30, 2005

FOR MODERATOR

For ONE Year	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	TOTAL
Thomas L. P. O'Donnell	443	413	506	439	453	361	2615
Blanks	80	92	102	86	102	115	577
Write-Ins	3	6	3	2	5	1	20
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR SELECTMAN

For THREE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Melissa "Lissa" Tully	231	237	283	291	300	257	1599
Robert J. Perry	272	264	308	222	243	203	1512
Blanks	22	9	20	14	16	17	98
Write-Ins	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR ASSESSOR

For THREE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Stuart "Gregg" Hall	394	357	426	379	397	303	2256
Blanks	128	151	182	144	157	171	933
Write-Ins	4	3	3	4	6	3	23
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR BOARD OF HEALTH

For THREE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Stephan White	403	361	428	386	406	307	2291
Blanks	122	145	181	139	153	167	907
Write-Ins	1	5	2	2	1	3	14
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

For THREE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Kevin J. Bulman	326	282	329	232	308	234	1711
Russell F. Heissner	162	180	219	244	210	179	1194
Blanks	38	48	63	51	42	64	306
Write-Ins		1		0	0	0	1

Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212
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FOR HOUSING AUTHORITY

For FIVE Years	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR4	PR5	PR6	TOTAL
Marylou Tutkus	377	357	407	360	406	298	2205
Blanks	147	150	201	166	151	176	991
Write-ins	2	4	3	1	3	3	16
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For THREE Years-TWO	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Adam N. Bosnian	141	160	182	205	206	237	1131
Esther M. Healey	309	323	407	319	378	267	2003
Christine T. Smith	334	275	281	220	253	175	1538
Blanks	267	260	351	310	281	274	1743
Write-Ins	1	4	1	0	2	1	9
Total	1052	1022	1222	1054	1120	954	6424

FOR PLANNING BOARD

For FIVE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Susan C. Murphy	400	372	432	368	401	316	2289
Blanks	124	136	177	155	159	158	909
Write-Ins	2	3	2	4	0	3	14
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR SEWER COMMISSION

For THREE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
John M. Brandt	388	358	406	356	384	300	2192
Blanks	134	149	203	168	169	173	996
Write-Ins	4	4	2	3	7	4	24
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR RECREATION COMM

For FIVE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Thomas J. Campbell	304	306	311	302	297	277	1797
Richard K. Santoro	172	158	215	176	210	142	1073
Blanks	49	46	85	49	53	57	339
Write-Ins	1	1	0	0	0	1	3
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR RECREATION COMM

For TWO Years	PR1	PR2	PR3	PR4	PR5	PR6	TOTAL
Cheryl A. Bierwirth	318	302	306	276	263	253	1718
Amy D. Spall	142	139	195	178	211	135	1000
Blanks	66	69	110	73	85	89	492
Write-Ins	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

FOR RECREATION COMM

For ONE Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR6	TOTAL
Mitchell J. Powers	415	400	435	391	426	336	2403
Blanks	110	110	176	134	132	139	801
Write-ins	1	1	0	2	2	2	8
Total	526	511	611	527	560	477	3212

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

	<u>Fees Collected</u>
1,062 Building Permits	2,592,050.
547 Plumbing Permits	93,088.
423 Gas Permits	16,256.
1,041 Electrical Permits	197,326.
<u>108 Municipal Inspection Fees</u>	<u>5,040.</u>
3,181	2,903,760.

SUMMARY

		<u>Estimated Cost</u>
63	New Sing. Fam. Dwellings	22,467,469.
2	Multi Family Residences	26,500,000.
	(135 + 80, Total of 215 Units)	
197	Dwelling Additions	16,366,218.
465	Dwelling Alterations	9,183,263.
71	Commercial Alterations	14,172,287.
9	Commercial Additions	1,768,976.
40	Sheds	269,917.
1	Parking Garage	13,623,000.
17	Garage Additions	3,562,745.
2	Foundations Only	65,200.
60	Signs	183,583.
3	Pools (above ground)	20,800.
16	Pools (in ground)	402,390.
5	Chimneys	18,100.
16	Wood/Coal Stoves	31,925.
32	Demolitions	263,800.
19	Demolitions (non-residential)	228,200.
3	Office, Bank, Professional-Building	81,741,795.
1	School Scoreboard	52,424.
30	Temporary Tents	55,609.
1	Pump Station	20,000.
3	New Structures other than Building	175,000.
1	Wharf Alterations	176,000.
2	Antennae	8,900.
3	Miscellaneous O/S	19,500.
<u>1,062</u>		<u>191,377,101.</u>

[illegible]

*W*e also remind you to protect yourself before buying property. The records of this department are available to the public to check for legal occupancy, compliance, and for complaints against the property you wish to purchase.

The Building Department wishes to acknowledge the support, cooperation and assistance we have received from all town departments during the past year.

Richard E. Morgan
Building Commissioner

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Originally established in 1959, the Hingham Conservation Commission is a seven-member board of citizens charged with the protection of the Town's natural resources. Initially the Commission served as an advisory agency to other town boards and commissions; it has now assumed regulatory duties under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Rivers Protection Act, Town of Hingham Wetland Protection Bylaw and the new federally mandated Stormwater Management Act. These regulations require an enormous investment in Commission time in public hearings, reviewing the numerous projects, which at present encompasses over two thousand acres under development in Hingham. Projects range in size from simple additions to existing homes, to those covering hundreds of acres. Despite the heavy regulatory and administrative burden the Commission has not abandoned its initial mandate of acquiring open space as it now administers over 1,025 acres, more than any other town agency. These properties have been acquired through gifts and purchases of land, which add to and augment other public and quasi-public open space.

The Commission continues to work with Federal, State and local government agencies, watershed and environmental groups and citizens at large in addressing environmental challenges and quality of life issues.

Cliff Prentiss, Conservation Officer and Linda Morash Defreitas, the Administrative Assistant are available daily in the Conservation Office, as is the part-time Assistant Conservation Officer, Michele Simoneaux, in dealing with land use matters.

Eugene R. Babin
Samuel Chapin
Douglas Harvey
Kenneth Soltys

Susan Berry
John Eisenmann (resigned)
Mark Milton

PERSONNEL BOARD

*T*he Personnel Board is pleased to submit this annual report for calendar year 2005.

Following an arbitration proceeding overseen by the Joint Labor Management Committee of the Commonwealth, the Town entered into an agreement with the Police Patrolmen (IBPO Local 520) providing for a one year agreement from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, along with a three year agreement covering the period from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2007. In addition, based on the Board's recommendation, the Town implemented salary increases for non-union employees of 2% effective January 1, 2005 and an additional 2% effective July 1, 2005, with another 2% increase to become effective on January 1, 2006.

Additional issues addressed by the Board included the adjudication of union grievances that were not satisfactorily resolved at a preliminary level regarding overtime pay and injury leave.

In other actions, the Board approved the reclassification of the existing positions of Payroll Administrator, Highway Supervisor, Tree and Parks Supervisor and Sewer Supervisor. The Board approved the System Analyst and Deputy Harbormaster position descriptions. In addition, title changes for and reclassification of existing positions creating the titles of Assistant Town Administrator and Information Systems Manager were initiated. The Board approved the hiring of six people at salaries above the minimum step for the positions involved based on prior experience. These positions are the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Payroll Administrator, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works, Human Resources Director and Treasurer/Collector.

The Board worked with the various Department Heads in addressing a number of vacation carry-over requests, requests for the extension of sick leave and one request for a leave of absence.

Michael J. Puzo, Chairman
James E. Claypoole
Marie Harris
William D. MacGillivray
Nelson Ross

HINGHAM PLANNING BOARD

The Hingham Planning Board is pleased to submit this annual report for 2005. The level of activity experienced over the past few years continued unabated as the Board considered and acted upon a wide variety of development proposals including residential subdivisions, commercial developments, and proposals for new Town facilities.

In terms of subdivisions, three small projects were approved: four lots at Gardner Woods on lower Gardner Street; three lots on Dennis Road extension off Abington Street, and one new lot at 309 Whiting Street. Two of these projects (Dennis Road and 309 Whiting) were accepted with a provision that the roadway remain private in perpetuity due to the large number of waivers granted from the Town's Subdivision Regulations. This reflects a growing trend in Hingham, where, due to the increasingly challenging nature of the land remaining to be developed, the roadways created do not meet town standards for a Town accepted roadway. The Planning Board feels strongly that Hingham's subdivision regulations are not just arbitrary—they are intended to promote safe, durable, easily maintained and attractive roadways in accordance with standards engineering practices. Waivers permitting sharper curves, alternative paving, lack of curbs, etc., while perhaps creating a more attractive or naturalistic appearance, tend to also save the developer a considerable amount of money in construction costs. In this way, permitting a roadway that does not conform to Town standards represents significant relief to the developer. In exchange, these roads are permitted with specific conditions requiring that the Town not be saddled with the added cost, and potential risks of long-term maintenance. Buyers purchasing homes on such private ways *should* be aware that they are buying into a Homeowner's Association with the responsibility for roadway maintenance, in that it is clearly written in the deed for their property.

Along with the review and approval of new projects, the Planning Board acted on requests for modifications or time extensions for nine already approved subdivisions in varying stages of completion. Oversight of the construction of ongoing projects posed a serious challenge to all regulatory boards and commissions in 2005 due to record rainfalls and high groundwater elevations, resulting in flooding and erosion not just at construction sites but all over town. The Board acted on sixteen ANR (Approval Not Required), plans to subdivide property, relocate lot lines, and swap land.

The Board granted a Special Permit A-3 under the under the Flexible Residential Development (FRD) By-Law for Weathervane at Chestnut Gardens, a 23-unit, age restricted condominium planned for the site currently occupied by the Riley Construction Company on Beal Street. This by-law, voted at Town Meeting in 2003, permits relief from certain dimensional standards in exchange for the preservation of open space, and allows for additional density with the provision of affordable units.

During 2005 the Planning Board conducted Site Plan Review hearings and prepared recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals for sixteen applications for new Special Permits, or modifications to existing Special Permits. Two of the more challenging reviews were for the DPW facility and Athletic Fields proposed for the School Dept land, and the 45-unit condominium proposed by Thomas Hastings in association with improvements to the Town-owned Beal Street athletic fields. Both of these projects, which required lengthy Site Plan review hearings on the part of the Planning Board and ZBA, brought to light fundamental flaws and inefficiencies in the current procedure for Site Plan Review and consideration of Special Permits A-2. The Board is committed to working with the Zoning Board of Appeals and all interested parties to streamline and clarify the Site Plan Review process as soon as possible.

The Board held hearings on and made recommendations to Town Meeting for nine amendments to the Zoning By-Law. These included a number of “clean-up” articles intended to clarify and streamline the By-Law, as well as more substantive changes. Of note, the requirements for multi-family housing were modified, in an effort to respond to the lack of affordable housing in Hingham and throughout the State, so that all projects include 10% affordable units as defined by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Board is committed to collaborating with the Selectmen in the coming year to address traffic and other planning issues on the Beal Street/West Street/Fort Hill Street corridor as this area is faced with a potentially significant amount of new development in the coming years.

The Planning Board meets most Monday evenings at 7:00 PM. Meeting agendas are posted at Town Hall and can be viewed on the Town Web Site. We encourage and greatly appreciate the thoughtful input and involvement of Town residents in all land use and development issues affecting the Town.

Sarah H. Corey
Paul K. Healey
W. Tod McGrath

Susan Murphy
John A. Riley
Katy Lacy, Town Planner

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

*T*he Board of Appeals has three regular members, appointed to 3-year terms, and eight associate members appointed to 1-year terms. The Board of Selectmen makes all appointments.

2005 was an extremely busy year for the Board. A total of forty-five applications were received, resulting in sixty-six hearings being held. The Board granted twenty-one residential Variances. Projects included new construction/additions/reconstruction to dwellings and garages, sheds, fences, conversion of garages to living space, and determination of lot buildability. The Board also approved a height Variance to construct a 6,000 sq.ft. office building on Recreation Park Road and a modification to the previously approved sign Variance for an oversized building sign on the new Apple Computer Store at the Derby Street Shoppes. Variances are authorizations to use land or structures in a manner that is otherwise prohibited by the Zoning By-Law.

The Board heard applications on twenty-six Special Permit requests. Special Permits are authorizations to use land or structures for a specific use which is expressly permitted by the special permit, provided general guidelines as detailed in the By-Law and specific conditions arising from the review process itself are met. Special permits are designed as a flexible tool to assure that the use is in harmony with the intent and purposes of the By-Law. Among those approved include construction of two new office/warehouse buildings on Sharp Street, the addition of a power transformer and electrical switchgear in the existing substation for Hingham Municipal Light on Old Hobart Street, installation of a new shed for the Town of Hingham Harbormaster near the boat ramp on Otis Street, and a walk-up ATM and off street parking waiver for Boston Private Bank & Trust Company on Central Street. The Board also approved numerous requests for signs, including New England Jewelry on Whiting Street and Ridgewood Crossing on French Street.

Appeals are reviews of the decisions or orders of zoning officials by the Board of Appeals. The Board may uphold, reverse or modify the official's decision. The Board heard one Appeal in 2005, a request to reverse the Building Commissioners issuance of building permits and to determine the zoning compliance of the new lot and existing situation at 79-87 North Street. The board granted the Appeal of the building permits, but dismissed the compliance determination. As a result of these hearings, the developer applied for a Special Permit parking determination, which was granted with conditions.

The Board also granted one Comprehensive Permit under the Local Initiative Program to the Town of Hingham and South Shore Habitat for Humanity for a single family dwelling to be built on Central Street.

2005 also saw the retirement of long time Zoning Administrator Mary Jean Shultz. The Board wishes to express its deeply held feelings of gratitude and thanks for the superb work and professionalism that she has rendered to the Zoning Board of Appeals and to the Town of Hingham.

In October, the Board welcomed new Zoning Administrator Jane Santosuosso. Jane joins Administrative Secretary Sue Letizia-Eddy as part of the office staff. The office is open Monday-Thursday to assist developers, other town departments and the general public in zoning matters. The Board encourages all interested citizens to attend its' hearings which are held on Thursday evenings at Town Hall.

The Board would like to express its thanks for the support, cooperation and assistance we have received from all town departments during the past year.

SUMMARY

Applicants:	45	
Hearings:	66	
Special Permits:	22	(3 granted, 14 granted with conditions, 3 denied, 2 withdrawn)
Variances:	26	(8 granted, 15 granted with conditions, 1 denied, 1 withdrawn, 1 dismissed)
Appeals:	1	(granted in part/denied in part)
Comprehensive Permits:	1	(granted with conditions)

Mario Romania, Jr., Chairman
Victor A. Popp, Vice-Chairman
Stephen J. McLaughlin, Clerk

Jane Santosuosso, Zoning Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*T*he Department of Public Works is responsible for the care and upkeep of approximately 140 miles of public roads, 100 miles of drain lines, 10,000 drainage structures, 60 miles of sidewalks, and over 10,000 public shade trees. We maintain numerous parks, grounds, islands, recreation and athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, parking areas, skating areas, beaches, public buildings, Town forests and two Town nurseries. We also maintain and provide other assistance for the upkeep of Conservation areas, the Bare Cove Park, and numerous other public properties throughout Town.

The Department of Public Works is directly responsible for snow and ice control on all public roadways, parking areas, public buildings, driveways, schools, sidewalks and certain private ways and unaccepted subdivisions. We are also responsible for the operation of the Town's Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility, as well as, the monitoring, maintenance, and closure of the Town's former Sanitary Landfill.

Highway Division

Roadwork and Reconstruction: Full Depth Reconstruction: Old County Road from Cushing Street to Winthrop Road, Pioneer Road from Cushing Street to Patriots Way; Crack sealing: Bulow Road, Main Street from Middle Street to Water Street, and William B. Terry Drive.

Snow and Ice Control: (107" of snow): (14) Snowplow Operations, (44) Sanding Operations.

New Equipment: 2005 John Deere Model 5425 Tractor, PA41 Flail Mower Attachment.

Roadways accepted at Annual Town Meeting: Brandon Woods Circle, Maryknoll Drive.

Special Projects/Maintenance: In the fall of 2005 we began the long delayed reconstruction of Hingham Square. While completion of this project is not possible while the MBTA rail line restoration is still in progress, sidewalk reconstruction and roadwork performed to-date has been well received by all. Other special projects included selective clearing of Steamboat Wharf, replacement of the Governor Long culvert, the reconstruction of numerous catch basins, manholes, and other drainage structures throughout Town.

Tree and Park Division

Tree Plantings: 71; Tree Removals: 137

New Equipment: 2005 Chevrolet Model 2500 Silverado Pickup Truck.

Special Projects/Maintenance:

On-going maintenance includes the upkeep of two Town owned nurseries, the George Washington Town Forest, corrective tree pruning, cabling, removal of public shade trees, and the care and maintenance of roadside areas throughout Town. We maintain approximately 200 parks and traffic islands, and provide assistance to the School Department, Sewer Department, Fire Department, Police Department and Conservation Commission.

The Garden Club of Hingham donated a Paper bark Maple Tree for Manatee Park and the Teamsters Local 25 representing the Hingham DPW workers, purchased a Sweet gum that was planted at the Bathing Beach Park on Hingham Harbor Park as part of the Town's Annual Arbor Day Celebration. We have also been working with Erickson Retirement Communities and Hingham Beautification Committee to improve the landscape on the traffic island.

Hingham was named a Tree City USA for the 18th time in recognition of the Town's strong commitment to caring for and protecting our public shade trees. We are glad to advise residents and answer any questions regarding Tree and Shrub Care and maintenance.

Recreation Division

The Recreation Division is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of athletic fields, tennis courts, recreation areas, playgrounds, and other open spaces throughout the Town. The Recreation Division mows and maintains Pal Field, Haley Field, Center School Field, Hull Street Park and Field, Hersey Playground and Field, Bradley Woods Park and Kress Playground Park and Field, the harbor waterfront area, and numerous other public grounds, areas, and schools.

The Recreation Division also assists with maintenance improvement of public roads, drainage, trees, and other Town property, and assists with snow and ice control throughout the Town.

Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility

Last year we transferred 8,289 tons of household rubbish to the SEMASS trash to energy facility in Rochester and 1,092 tons of bulky waste and demolition to the Bourne Landfill. Hingham residents recycled 19,633 tons of mixed recyclables, 7,830 tons of brush, logs and yard waste, 1Ton of tires, 4,400 gallons of motor oil, 94,350 pounds of

electronics, and over 1,000 pounds of household hazardous waste. The success of our recycling program provides relief from increasing waste disposal fees and benefits the environment, as well.

With disposal costs projected to rise steadily in the future, the economic benefits of separation and recycling cannot be overemphasized. We urge residents to maximize their recycling efforts and to reduce waste disposal through separation, recycling and composting. The Department of Public Works is happy to answer any questions regarding recycling, composting, or use of the new Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility.

Interdepartmental

There were a number of transfers, promotions, reclassifications, and personnel changes within the Department last year, and it is with regrets, but congratulations that we said goodbye to long term employees that recently retired; Mario Marcella, Rod Andrews and Mary Grassie. We are, however, happy to welcome our newest employees: Susan Rust, Anthony Hagerty, Kevin Long, Nick Trinchera, Jim Keaney, and Randy Sylvester.

On behalf of the Townspeople of Hingham, I would like to commend all the employees of the Department of Public Works who sacrificed many long hours this winter in order to keep our roads safe and passable. I would especially like to thank Harry Sylvester for a great job in directing the Town's Snow and Ice Control Operations, and Helen Daigger and Susan Rust for keeping the Public Works Department office operating in an efficient and professional manner.

Joseph Stigliani,
Superintendent

HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

I am very pleased to submit this report to the citizens of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant on behalf of the Light Board, the General Manager and the employees of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant.

The Light Plant continues to provide a safe and reliable electrical system to all of its customers. The three-member elected Light Board sets policies, procedures and long term planning with the customers of Hingham in mind.

The Light Board has voted to transfer to the Town a payment-in-lieu of taxes of \$451,474 to the Town's fiscal 2006 budget year. The Board also voted to fund a \$90,000 school space needs study that was approved at the 2005 Town Meeting. This past year the Light Plant undertook a comprehensive energy audit program of all the municipal buildings, starting with the school buildings. The school portion of the audit has been completed and recommendations for energy savings are being reviewed by the School Department and the Light Plant for implementation. The remaining municipal buildings will be audited during 2006.

At this time, the Auditor's report for the 2005 calendar year for Hingham Municipal Light Plant is not available for publication. The Light Plant experienced a 10.62% increase in electricity sales for 2005 and a 26.57% increase in peak load to 45.1 MW. This increase is a result of the new customers that were added to the electrical system in 2005, the final stores in the Derby Street Shoppe's, the additional Linden Pond retirement community buildings, additional homes in Black Rock, along with the construction needs of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield building. The growth is expected to continue during 2006 as Linden Ponds moves forward with its phased construction plan, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield building becomes occupied and the Hingham Shipyard begins its transformation to a residential/commercial property.

The growth has necessitated a \$3 million dollar expansion of the Hobart Street substation to accommodate the new construction in the Town, as well as the continued demand for electricity by our present customers. This projected is expected to be completed by early summer.

The Light Plant continues to perform at or near first quartile performance with regard to system reliability standards. This previous year proved to be a difficult one, with several snow storms, a microburst in August and some late fall wind and rain storms that challenged the electrical system.

The Light Plant in conjunction with the Fire Department held a joint Open House celebrating Public Power Week and Fire Prevention Week. The Open House was attended by many of our citizens and especially by the children in the community. We would like to thank the Fire Department for involving us in their Open House.

The Light Board consisting of Chairman John A. Stoddard, Jr., Secretary Walter A. Foskett, and Commissioner Kevin J. Bulman, continues to work hard to make the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant a public power company that the residents of Hingham can be proud of.

We would like to also thank the employees of the Light Plant for their tireless hard work, in making the system more reliable and responding to customer outages and requests in a timely manner. The employees continue to be the single greatest asset of the company.

John G. Tzimorangas
General Manager

John A. Stoddard, Jr., Chairman
Walter A. Foskett, Secretary
Kevin J. Bulman, Commissioner

SEWER COMMISSION

Work on the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan got underway and included several meetings of the Wastewater Master Planning Committee as well as scope definition and approval by Mass DEP. Additionally low interest twenty year funding was received from the State Revolving Fund. This study will define the course of wastewater disposal in the town for many years to come. Public meetings will be held to hear citizen opinions and gather information. All interested citizens are urged to attend.

An updated study to find infiltration and inflow leaks in the sewer system was begun with MWRA funding. Results are expected in the spring of 2006. The last analysis was conducted twenty years ago.

The Commission engineers, Camp, Dresser, and McKee continue to closely monitor the impact of the Greenbush project on the downtown portion of the sewer system. \$75,000 was received from Greenbush in compensation for discharge into the system during construction this year.

The Shipyard project is moving toward fruition with the application for a sewer extension permit being submitted to the State. The Commission is expected to receive 1.2 million dollars in connection fees over the life of the project to be used for Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) removal as well as major repairs to the system.

Substantial rehabilitation of leaking sewer connections (chimneys) to remove I&I was carried out this fall on North and South Streets. In addition, the operating system at the Bradley Woods pump station was completely renovated as part of the Baker Hill development at no cost to the ratepayers. Other repairs and renovations were carried out at pump stations and several individual grinder pump units in the Weir River Sewer District were modified to make the systems run more reliably and to facilitate maintenance.

The Commission continues to require that no sump pump generated groundwater inflow be discharged to the sewer system and, as part of our ongoing I&I elimination program, advises that **we will pay** to redirect the flow from any existing pumps.

Kudos to Supervisor Jim Dow for receiving the Employee of the Year award for 2005.

As always the Commission expresses its thanks for the dedication of our office staff and field crew, Jim Dow, Kate Lathrop, Ed Hunnefeld, Steve Dempsey, Larry Hallahan, Joanne Carpenter and Susan Morrison.

John M. Brandt, Chairman
Edmund Demko
Michael A. Salerno

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

*E*mergency Management continues to be active. During 2005 we updated our special needs records of all Hingham's residents. These are records we keep to assist us with emergency planning during long-term events. If you have a special need that requires attention, I strongly urge you to contact us.

As a result of a presidential directive requiring that all public safety agencies operate under a unified command system, the Board of Selectmen voted to formally adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Operating under the NIMS protocols standardizes our command policies and procedures with the rest of the country.

We continue to take advantage of the training that is offered to us from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

I continue to recommend each and every family to have a disaster supply kit available in your homes. The kit should include everything necessary to support yourself and family for three days in the event of a major weather event or long-term power outage. Please feel free to contact Emergency Management should you require help in assembling the kit.

Mark J. Duff, Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Incident Responses

90	Fire Situations
39	Engine/Ladder Mutual Aid
263	Ambulance Mutual Aid
1	Steam/Gas Ruptures
1574	Medical Aid
106	Motor Vehicle Accidents (with injuries)
406	Motor Vehicle Accidents (without injuries)
221	Good Intent Calls
69	Malicious False Alarms
3	Bomb Threats
195	System Malfunction
281	Hazardous Conditions/Spills
191	Accidental Alarms
561	Public Assists
26	Carbon Monoxide
<hr/>	
3878	TOTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSES

2005 has proven to be a very challenging and productive year. On June 12th, Chief William Johnson retired from the department after serving 8 years. During his tenure the department greatly expanded our EMS system to include paramedic service. Two fire stations were renovated, manpower was increased to meet the ever-increasing workload and most of our apparatus was replaced. Perhaps Chief Johnson's biggest contribution to the department was the professional standard he set. We all learned from "Bill", as he liked to be called, and our community is safer because of him!

On September 11th, Department Chaplain E. Gardner Jones was made an "Honorary Fire Chief" at a ceremony that was held at Central Fire Station. Gardner Jones has served as our Chaplain since the 1930's and it is believed that he is the longest serving Fire Department Chaplain in the country. As part of the event he was presented a letter signed by President Bush.

Fire Lt. Mark Cerilli retired in August after having served the department for 20 years. Firefighter John Quinn retired in November after serving for 29 years. Both of these members leave the department with the best wishes of their associates.

Planning continues on the Central Fire Station renovation and expansion project. I look forward to its completion. We are currently operating from a headquarters facility that is 65 years old. Although it has served our needs well, an upgrade is long overdue.

In April a second ambulance went on line to better serve our residents. We now operate two ambulances twenty-four hours a day. Both units are staffed at the paramedic level. Having two ambulances immediately available to our residents greatly increases our ability to provide Advanced Life Support intervention.

Our CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) continues to be active and has supported us in several functions. This is a group of citizens who volunteer their time to assist us at large events. Plans are in the making to expand the team in 2006.

Our workload continues to increase. This has placed an increased demand on both our response staff and administrative staff. Total emergency responses for 2005 were 3878 calls, which is a 10% increase over the previous year. This does not include the hundreds of inspections we conduct and our ongoing public education program. Training continues on a daily basis. Training includes EMS, Firefighting, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and Homeland Security.

Our future challenges are many. The Derby Shoppe's, Linden Ponds, Greenbush, the Shipyard Project and many smaller projects impact us significantly. Rarely does a day pass that we do not respond to emergencies at these locations and sometimes we are there several times in a single day. These locations also require frequent inspections for our fire prevention division and thought must be given in the future to add a second full time fire prevention inspector.

As our workload and responsibilities expand our need for training also expands. I have requested a small increase in my budget to accommodate the training requirements.

In conclusion I would like to thank all the various Town departments who work so well with us, the leadership of the community and the residents who continue to support us. My staff and I are always willing to meet with you and discuss any issues you may have. It is a pleasure to serve as your chief.

Mark J. Duff
Fire Chief

HINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

*T*hrough the first six (6) years of the 21st century we have all been exposed to the many growth issues experienced by the Town of Hingham. In 2005 the Police Department was also impacted by the new growth challenges. Demands for service continue to climb and the reality is that for the foreseeable future the trend will be for more calls for service. This past year the men and women of the police department responded to 16,414 calls for service ranging from lost property to homicides.

The Police Department is always in some form of transition due to the complexity of the mission (as evidenced by the statistical summary of events). Additional personnel will be needed to provide the best possible measure of protective services while maintaining our many and varied outreach projects.

The near and long-term needs for the delivery of policing services are based upon the projected demands for service and the evolution of the demographics of the town. Between 1970 and 2005 the population of Hingham grew 11%. Based upon the proposals underway and actively planned, the town will experience a population increase from approximately 20,967 to 24,986 by 2011, a 16 % growth surge.

The Town of Hingham is in transition. The community, long ago, established itself as a premier location in which to reside. The Town currently has three (3) major development projects (Linden Ponds, Hingham Shipyard [Seachain], and Greenbush), not to mention a number of other projects (over a dozen totaling over 355 units) impacting virtually every precinct. Once completed these projects will distinctly change the fabric of the Town.

The introduction of major projects like Greenbush Commuter Railroad, Linden Ponds and the redevelopment of the shipyard bring about the need to be able to cover these 'new' sectors. Consider if you will the analogy of the Town annexing an area the equivalent size of one of our voter precincts. Prior to the annexation there was little, if any, need to dedicate resources toward that geographic location. Now there is another public safety sector to cover and no additional resources. The re-introduction of the Greenbush transportation corridor with an underpass (tunnel), two parking lots, 9 at-grade crossings, plus miles of active railroad tracks, dictates the hiring of additional personnel.

Linden Ponds is by all accounts a village within the town and it too requires the expenditure of resources. Special populations present

unique challenges in the delivery of policing services. Upon completion there is expected to be at least 2,500 residents and up to 1,000 staff personnel tending to their needs or the maintenance of the grounds.

The Seachain project within the old Hingham Shipyard will transform that area into a mixed use waterfront community, within a community, complete with 479 units (townhouses, condos and apartments), a 2,000 + vehicle parking facility with two floors to service the commuter boats primarily, Hewitt's Cove Marina, plus nearly ¼ million square feet of retail/office space.

The Department has two major issues to contend with and both revolve around personnel. One issue is having an adequate workforce and the other issue is preparing that workforce for tomorrow's leadership role they will be required to assume. The leadership required to lead tomorrow's police department is present now. Tomorrow's leaders need to be trained today. Tomorrow's leaders need the resources to carry out tomorrow's mission. Through the planning and resource allocation process we can resolve both issues.

PLANNING

The Department is in the midst of re-organizing and re-tooling. By re-organizing we are making adjustments in the table of organization designed to better meet the Department's immediate needs and tomorrow's. By re-tooling we are looking at building our capacity through; leadership development; prevention and preparedness trainings; technology and intelligence sharing; community and citizen engagement and resource acquisition and management.

Our calls for service and our response to those calls come in many forms. Over the past 5 years the Town has seen a decrease in crimes of violence. While continuing to work towards the further reduction in violent crime we must also address "quality of life" crimes. There are several methods available that would enable us to address these issues. The major commercial/retail areas –Square/Cove, Derby St. Shoppes, and the Shipyard-would be prime candidates for a business watch program. Implementing Geographical Community Policing in specific areas would also be of tremendous benefit to the Town. . GCP is the process of assigning police officers responsibility for specific geographic areas. They would be able to work flexible schedules to mirror the demands for service as indicated by the needs of their particular assigned area. In order to prepare and deploy personnel for the GCP mission the Town must commit adequate resources.

We are working cooperatively to re-design and re-structure our communications capabilities by taking advantage of the latest

technologies (fiber and wireless methods of disseminating audio, data and video). The day-to-day operational value, the remote training capability and emergency mitigation aspect make this a long overdue endeavor. Once completed the Town will have a far superior platform for communications inter and intra operability. This process is a joint operation involving the entire town's emergency management partners being included in the dialogue.

TRAINING

One of the Town's responsibilities is to identify those personnel who demonstrate a leadership aptitude and present those candidates for leadership with meaningful and challenging trainings by local and national leaders in the field. We began that process several years ago and have successfully trained eleven of our thirteen supervisory personnel (from Chief to Sergeant) at the Command Training Institute (CTI).

The CTI, located at Roger Williams University (formerly located at Babson College), is a leadership and management development program divided into three, two-week sessions beginning with First Line Supervision, followed by Intermediate Level Supervision and concluding with Command Level Leadership. In the past funding through grants made attendance at the CTI possible. The Town needs to provide resources in order for the Department to prepare its leadership personnel for today as well as tomorrow.

The Department has taken advantage of other forms of training through the Municipal Police Institute (MPI is the educational arm of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association) and the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Committee (MCJTC). We are also very fortunate to be the recipient of the generosity of Mr. John Emler, the Director of the Institute for Management Studies. Mr. Emler, a graduate of the Hingham Citizens Police Academy, has been a patron for a number of years; during that time the men and women of the Hingham Police Department have attended numerous business management and leadership seminars, presented by nationally acclaimed educators and leaders in the fields of management and leadership.

Additional joint trainings and exercises within the matrix of the National Incident Management (NIMS) are a necessary component of an overall strategy to enhance Hingham's ability to respond to and deal with an all-hazard event effectively and efficiently.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

The Greenbush project, as well as the traffic safety issues surrounding Main St again dominated 2005. During the past year we provided liaison

services between the Town and Greenbush representatives. We also continued our selective enforcement program. Selective enforcement is accomplished by providing traffic safety education and enforcement in response to citizen complaints ranging from pedestrian safety to speeding motor vehicles.

We have successfully pursued training opportunities in motorcycle operations (first full year of motorcycle deployments by the police in nearly 50 years). We were able to train and deploy our first "truck team." We continued our efforts in Operation Lifesaver (trainings in train safety and awareness).

COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT

We continued our outreach program as demonstrated by our highly visible Citizen Police Academies, and Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association (a number of Alumni are also graduates of the Hingham Fire Academy and still others are members of the CERT Team (Citizen Emergency Responses Team).

Our deep commitment to domestic violence awareness and our aggressive response is demonstrative of our long term partnership with the South Shore Women's center and our continued support towards the presence of advocates for victims of domestic violence working in cooperation the members of the police department. Our preferred response to domestic violence is the arrest of the primary aggressor.

We also continue our support of Neighborhood watch, child safety seat installations (Department of Transportation approved) free home and business security surveys, TRIAD, as well as our drug education program, delivered by our SRO in the Middle School in cooperation with the School Department. Seniors, women and children deserve our 'special attention,' but in order to continue to fulfill their needs requires a special commitment from the citizens of Hingham.

TRANSITION

In May of 2005, after 39 years of faithful service to the Department and the Town of Hingham, Sgt Gerard Travers retired. Officer Darren McAdams was promoted to Sergeant to fill the vacancy left by Sgt Travers. Four new officers began their careers in 2005; Robert Stockbridge, Michael Bizzozero, Jeffrey Kilroy (lateral transfer from the Bridgewater State College Police Department) and Scott Tracey (lateral transfer from the Halifax Police Department). A number of officers were re-assigned to fill key positions vacated by retirement, transfer and the creation of an additional detective position. Sgt "Rusty" Corcoran moved from Traffic-Safety to Prosecutor, Sgt. Michael Peraino moved from day-shift supervisor to Traffic-Safety, Off. Mathew McKenna returned to the

patrol force after a successful stint as our high school SRO (School Resource Officer). Officer Richard St. Laurent was assigned to fill the high school SRO position. Officer David Galvin became Detective in July. The department, at the end of 2005, was still below authorized strength due to the difficulties in obtaining police academy space in a timely manner. Beginning in 2006 the department will be down five officers; one (Heather Mendes) is currently enrolled in the Plymouth Police Academy and is expected to graduate in early 2006

The Public Safety Dispatchers were awarded the Customer Service Award for 2005 by the Board of Selectmen. Public Safety Dispatcher Donald Lincoln retired during the year after more than ten (10) years of service. The Public Safety Communication Center (Dispatch) workload was reviewed and based upon those findings it was found the Center needed more dispatch hour coverage. In order to cover the hours needed the personnel configuration was adjusted upward to nine people (six full-time, three part-time).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I extend my thanks and appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, Charles Cristello our Town Administrator, the Personnel Board, the Advisory Board, the Public Safety sub-committee of the Advisory Board and Capital Outlay.

Thank you to Harbormaster John Souther and Deputy Harbormaster Ken Corson for another wonderful season in and on the waters of Hingham. Thank you, also, to Al Currie, our Animal Control Officer.

Thank you to our Public Safety Dispatchers and to the women on the second floor who often go unnoticed but are vital components.

To the police men and women of the Hingham Police Department I thank you for your spirit, manner and professionalism. You are the foundation we stand upon. I look forward to 2006 knowing you will be there.

Steven D. Carlson
Chief of Police

SUMMARY OF ARREST CHARGES

Domestic Assault & Battery 31
Rape 1
Rape of a Child..... 1
Robbery 1
Assaults 33

Assault & Battery on a Police Officer/Firefighter	9
Burglary.....	4
Larceny	21
Receiving Stolen Property	10
Shoplifting	44
Liquor Laws	15
Drug Offenses	60
Minor With Alcohol.....	15
D.W.I. Alcohol/Drugs	80
Traffic.....	758
Warrants	169
Protective Custody	35
Disorderly/Disturbing the Peace.....	12
Malicious Destruction.....	22

SUMMARY OF COURT ACTIVITY

Magistrate Hearing	1,020
Court Conferences	1,820
Judges Appeal.....	120
Six person Jury.....	325
Grand Jury	35
Summons Processed.....	197
Warrants Processed	172

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIONS

CALLS FOR SERVICE	16,414
Alarms, Fire	484
Alarms, All Others.....	2,146
Animal Control.....	302
Assault With Dangerous Weapon	7
Burglary, Business.....	13
Burglary, Residential.....	30
Dangerous/Hazardous Situation	104
Disturbances	281
Domestic 209A Services.....	124
Erratic Operation of MV/Road Rage.....	354
Fire/All Types	139
Fraud	17
Harbormaster	34
Homicide	2
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	41
Larceny/Bicycles	3
Larceny/Shoplifting	61
Larceny/All Others	108

Lost and Found	172
Mutual Aid	170
MV Stolen/Recovered	24
MV Towed by Police	804
MV Traffic Hazard.....	115
Open Door/Business.....	108
Parking Complaints	204
Phone Calls/Harassing	61
Police Information/General Request.....	1,204
Crimes/Sexual	3
Solicitors	48
Suspicious Activity.....	392
Tree/Limb Down	136
Threats.....	43
Transport/Persons	364
Vandalism	109
Youth Complaint.....	107
Welfare Check.....	231
 TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE VIA 911.....	 3,390

TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION

MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS ISSUED

Warnings (No Fine)	1,853
Civil (Fine)	1,297
Criminal.....	195
Arrests.....	250
TOTAL	3,595
 Voids	 46

PARKING TAGS ISSUED..... 1,026

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS FACTS AND FIGURES

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MV ACCIDENTS</u>	<u>FATALS</u>	<u>MVA</u>
<u>W/INJURIES</u>			
1996	863	3	172
1997	775	2	165
1998	839	2	169
1999	814	2	147
2000	850	0	139

2001	872	0	238
2002	750	2	243
2003	640	0	182
2004	647	2	198
2005	692	2	109

PERSONS INJURED/KILLED IN M.V. ACCIDENTS 2005

Killed	2
MVA With Injury.....	109
MVA With No Injury	581

OTHER FACTS

Busiest Day for Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	Wednesday (113 MVAs)
Busiest Time for Motor Vehicle Accidents	2:00-3:00 PM (66 MVAs)
Busiest Street for Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	Main Street (136 MVAs)
Town of Hingham Square Miles	23
Town of Hingham Road Miles	185
Town of Hingham State Highways (Rte. 3, Rte. 3A, Rte. 228, Rte. 53)...	4
Motor Vehicles Garaged in Hingham as of 12/31/05.....	21,468

ANIMAL CONTROL

*A*nimal Control coverage is provided on an emergency basis 24 hours a day. The Department has an office in the Town Hall and is available weekdays for general business, telephone calls and assistance. This past year we continued to receive numerous calls regarding raccoons, woodchucks and skunks, mostly due to rabies concerns.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, the Police Department and all other departments for the assistance given me during this past year.

The adoption rate for dogs that were picked up is 100 percent.

Reported dog bites	12
Dogs to vet for euthanasia for calendar year	0
Disposal of dead animals.....	1,743
Animals in quarantine	46

Albert J. Currie
Animal Control Officer

HARBORMASTER

In Hingham Harbor we have over 1500 boats. The duties of the Harbormaster Department in the season of 2005 included: assisting boaters, recovering lost and stolen boats, supervising mooring locations, assisting the Boston Harbor Islands Group, running an environmentally sound pump-out program, assisting in monitoring the quality of water, and helping to educate boaters about the state and town laws.

Money collected from boat excise taxes and mooring permit fees will help pay the town's portion of future projects. Originally the inner harbor was to be dredged in the fall of 2008, however, the state has now moved the tentative date of the dredging project to the fall of 2009. Hopefully our state representatives will be able to secure the funds for this important project soon. It would be a tremendous benefit if the harbor were dredged before 2009. Another project, "in the works", is to improve the boat ramp. The state engineers are currently designing a pier to be placed at the boat ramp. This should make launching boats a more pleasant experience and eliminate some of the fun of on-lookers. This project is in the design phase now and also relies on our state representatives securing funds. A boat ramp pier will also allow a location for a dinghy dock and will coincide with improving transient access. Finally, a Harbormaster building will be in the design phase this year, (fiscal 2007).

Once again the Town Clerk's office will manage the waiting list for moorings in the inner harbor as well as process the monies collected for mooring permits. The inter-office cooperation continues to improve town services. Our data bank has been improved and one of our goals this season is the addition of GPS coordinates to be added.

It should be noted that in an emergency boaters could call for emergency services by utilizing 9-1-1 or 781-749-1212 via cell phone. All non-emergencies calls should be placed through 781-741-1450.

John R. Souther
Harbormaster

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The Traffic Committee continued in its efforts to assist residents with ways to alleviate traffic concerns in various areas of Hingham. The Traffic Committee does not have the power to implement changes, but recommends proposals to the Board of Selectmen for consideration. We thank the Board of Selectmen for their cooperation and interest in the recommendations made by the Committee.

The Traffic Committee was asked to discuss anticipated overflow parking at Greenbush train stops, as there was concern that the overflow may affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Committee members visited area train stops and reported back that there were no apparent parking problems even though the station lots were full. Members felt at this time that the neighborhoods would not be adversely affected and agreed to table this topic unless problems arose when the parking lots are actually being utilized.

Another topic visited this year was parking problems on Main Street in the area of South School. There was a concern for the safety of visitors parking on Main Street and also parking in non-designated areas and in front of hydrants. After much discussion it was agreed to recommend to the Board of Selectman that No Parking signs be posted in certain areas of Main Street and that there be changes made in crosswalks in the area.

The Weir River Estuary Park Committee came before the Traffic Committee asking for crosswalks in designated areas (both State and Town roads) to complete the walking and biking circuit through the Park. The Committee agreed and recommended to the Board of Selectmen that they endorse the Park Committee's recommendation to Mass. Highway to make the requested changes.

During 2005 the Traffic Committee recommended and the Board of Selectmen approved designating a section of South Street as one-way from Main Street northerly to North Street. Other topics related to the Greenbush project have been discussed and will be addressed as needed in the future.

The area of Upper Gardner Street will continue as an area of discussion in 2006. The Traffic Committee will be reviewing a traffic study conducted at the request of the Board of Selectmen

The Traffic Committee is available to assist residents with traffic concerns. Should you have a topic you would like to bring before the

Committee, please make a request to the Board of Selectmen, cc: Chief Steven D. Carlson, Hingham Police Department.

Chief Steven D. Carlson, Chairman
Represented by Sgt. Michael Peraino, Traffic Sergeant
Chief Mark Duff
Harry Sylvester, DWP
Katy Lacy, Planning Board
Joseph Burton
Philip Resca
Leslie Kehoe

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES INSPECTOR

*T*he following is a summary of work accomplished from January through December, 2005.

All gas station motor fuel and diesel dispensers located in the Town of Hingham were tested. A total of 213 dispensers were adjusted as needed and sealed.

Testing of 147 scales (apothecary, delicatessen, coffee shop, food shop, supermarket, propane tank, jewelry and school equipment) was completed.

All town owned sealer equipment has been tested and sealed and/or certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Weights and Measures Laboratory to be correct.

Massachusetts State Certification Continuing Education Credits have been completed.

The 2005 annual report was filed, as required by state law, prior to the January 31, 2006 deadline.

Harold Tuttle
Charles Alexson
Department of Weights and Measures

BARE COVE PARK COMMITTEE

The Bare Cove Park Committee meets the second Monday of each month at the Town Hall, except for June, July and August, when meetings are held at the park. Visitors are always welcome, and dates, times and locations are posted on the bulletin board at Town Hall. The Town website (www.hingham-ma.com) also contains meeting information as well as other information and photos of the park.

Volunteer landscaper and committee member, Frank Sheltry, and the park's ranger, Scott MacMillan, a retired Hingham firefighter, have kept the park in good condition as an attractive and pleasant place for the public to enjoy. In addition to the usual tasks of cutting the grass in summer and plowing the roads in winter, they have been cutting intrusive, non-indigenous vegetation, especially Japanese knotweed, which has begun to invade the grass fields. In addition, Scott trimmed back bushes and trees throughout the park that were encroaching on the roads.

Other on-going Committee efforts in the park include the addition of a 'Mutt Mitts' program to encourage visitors to clean up after their pets. To date, the program has been very successful in reducing the problem of dog waste. The Triangle Garden, near the Fort Hill Street entrance, has continued to flourish under the supervision of volunteer gardener, Barbara Nicosia. She and her group, The Friends of Bare Cove Park, also sponsor clean-ups and other projects to beautify the park. A gift account has been established to accept tax-deductible donations from those who want to aid their efforts. Contributions can be sent to them c/o the Bare Cove Park Committee at Town Hall.

Six new benches have recently been added to the park with assistance from Hingham Boy Scout Troop 1's Eagle Scout program, and particularly Scout Joseph Driscoll. Also, the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project sprayed the park several times last summer. In addition, the BCP Committee continues to use GPS technology to accurately update the road and trail maps that are available to visitors at the information kiosks and in the handout brochures available at the Fort Hill Street and Beal Street entrances.

The Committee, along with Town Administrator Charles Cristello, has been working with the Hastings Companies, purchaser of the former Project Turnabout land off of Beal Street. In addition to a necessary zoning change to allow the condominium development to proceed, a land swap was completed. A small parcel of the Project Turnabout land was exchanged for a parcel of land in Bare Cove Park. Mitigation throughout this process resulted in an agreement by the developer to provide a new

access road into the park and a better entrance off of Beal Street. In addition, the developer will provide an improved parking facility to be used jointly for the park and the youth athletic fields, which will also be rebuilt and improved. The developer has also committed to clearing trees and brush along the waterfront in three separate locations within the park as part of this agreement.

Governor Romney signed into law this year legislation handing over 15-acres of surplus State Highway Department land to the Town of Hingham. This parcel, landlocked within Bare Cove Park, was transferred to the Town through the efforts of State Senator Robert Hedlund and State Representative Garrett Bradley. State funds were also secured to demolish three large buildings on this site, near Route 3A, and five underground bunkers on land still owned by the State Department of Fisheries and Game. Efforts continue to acquire this additional (also 15-acre) parcel for incorporation into the park.

Plans are underway for walking paths to join Bare Cove Park to several surrounding parks. Included are plans for the construction of pedestrian/bicycle ramps on both sides of the Weymouth Back River under the bridge on Route 3A. This would join Great Esker Park in Weymouth to Abigail Adams Park, and Bare Cove Park to Stoddard's Neck. These would then all be connected by a walkway on the Rt. 3A bridge. State funds are available for the design of this system, and more will be secured for implementation.

The Bare Cove Park Committee has submitted an application to the Town's Community Preservation Committee for funds to restore, rehabilitate and improve the park. If approved, these funds will be used for the demolition and removal of several concrete foundations and debris that still remain from the years the park was used as a Naval Ammunition Depot. Other uses for these requested funds include rebuilding the main entrance off of Fort Hill Street in front of the South Shore Model Railway Club, completing the Triangle Garden, and improving the area around the Green Dock Building located along the river. Included in this last project would be proper anchorage of the valuable iron bollards and bits (once used to secure ammunition barges that docked in front of this building). Additional picnic tables and benches will also be added at various locations.

Finally, and very importantly, CPC funds would allow a professional assessment of the park, by taking a natural and human resource inventory, and recommending future projects for land management and conservation. As more of Hingham's open space is used for other purposes, the Bare Cove Park Committee feels that a resource such as

Bare Cove Park needs proper management so it will remain a place for all to enjoy, now and in the future.

John Swanson, Chairman
Bob England, Vice-Chairman
Paul Doyle, Secretary
Jane Conrad, Treasurer
Brooks Robbins

Frank Sheltry
Ron Clough
Andy Read
Timothy O'Neill
Scott MacMillan, Ranger

We are saddened to report that member Jane Conrad died unexpectedly in March 2006. As well as ably serving as Treasurer for the Committee, she spearheaded many park beautification initiatives. She presented funding proposals to the Capital Outlay Committee and the Community Preservation Committee and worked with the state during the demolition of several buildings and bunkers at the north end of the park. We all had great admiration for Jane's indomitable drive, spirit, and considerable accomplishments while serving on the Committee. She was truly one of a kind, and we'll miss her greatly.

TRUSTEES OF THE BATHING BEACH

*T*he beach was well used Summer 2005. It was closed on two days due to pollution in the harbor area. This was caused by a microburst of heavy rains. Once again we had to resand the beach due to winter northeast storms. This is an ongoing problem with no solution at present.

The Farmers' Market and several area churches and civic organizations used our picnic area and parking lot. A successful season enjoyed by many.

Thanks go to the Public Works, Police, Fire and Harbormaster Departments as well as the Board of Health.

F. Peter Fee, Chairman
Joan Williams

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

The Beautification Commission's first project for 2005 was designing the "Morton's Cove" park at the junction of Rte. 3A and East St. Our thanks to the Tree and Park Dept, which helped plant the island and will maintain it. In May we planted red, white, and blue petunias at the Veterans Memorial Garden at Main and Middle Streets, which was maintained by the Tree and Park Dept. through the summer and replanted by the Beautification Commission with chrysanthemums in the fall. The Marine dog memorial near Bare Cove Park was also planted for Memorial Day

Volunteers from Crow Pt. added to their neighborhood traffic island garden at Kimball Beach and Foley Beach Roads, and others planted three barrels at the corner of Lincoln St. and Rte 3A. Scotland St. neighbors continued beautifying their traffic island at Scotland and Main Streets. The Beautification Commission joined with other town organizations to choose trees and plantings to be included in the revitalization of Hingham's downtown area after Greenbush.

In October the Linden Ponds residents planted crocus and daffodil bulbs at the three islands by the library on the corner of Leavitt St. and Main St. They plan to plant perennials in the spring and will maintain the islands. In the spring, summer, and fall seasons 8 barrels in the downtown area were planted with seasonal displays. Watering these barrels and gardens is critical, so the success of flourishing containers and colorful islands depends on a watering solution.

A poster with pictures of our plantings around town is just inside the Town Hall's main entrance. We hope the town residents become informed about what the Beautification Commission is accomplishing and enjoy it.

This year we gained 4 new members, Rose Durkin, Katie Morrissey, Kathleen Norman and Marjorie Elsdon.

The Beautification Commission would like to thank the Board of Selectmen the DPW and the Tree and Park Dept. for their support.

Joan Hansel, Chairman
Shirley Rydell, Vice-Chairman
Miriam Tod, Secretary
Avis Studley, Treasurer
Laura Spaziani
Alyce Nobis

CENTRAL FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

Established at the Annual Town Meeting in FY 2003, the Central Fire Station Building Committee was charged with the responsibility of evaluating the possibility of renovating, expanding or replacing the Central Fire Station to address the growing public safety needs of our community.

For two years, the Committee examined three principal options: tear down and build a new station, a rear addition to the existing station or a side addition. Using funds allocated by Town Meeting in 2004, the committee was able to do preliminary architectural and engineering design and development on these options.

In FY 2005, the Committee voted unanimously to pursue the side bay addition as the preferred option for the Central Fire Station. The 2005 Annual Town Meeting voted 651 to 143 to approve \$3,934,750 in additional construction funding for the Fire Station project based on a cost estimate associated with the side bay addition.

Over the last year, the Committee has worked to further refine the plans for the Fire Station. During meetings with the Historic Districts Committee, the rear bay addition along with multiple side bay addition designs were examined. The Committee, Fire Chief Duff and retired Chief Johnson supported the side bay addition as meeting the foreseeable public safety needs of the community and as the functionally best and smallest addition possible. With Historic Districts Commission input, the Committee substantially redesigned the exterior of the proposed side bay addition. On November 9, 2005, the Committee received a unanimous vote in favor of a Certificate of Appropriateness with eight conditions from the Historic Districts Commission. Early in 2006, the Committee received unanimous votes from the Planning Board for a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and from the ZBA for the required By-Law variances. Additionally, the Committee is working with the MWRA to provide for the wastewater from the Fire Station.

Over the last year, construction costs have continued to escalate. The lengthy regulatory review and permitting process has slowed the project eliminating any possibility of beginning the construction in this fiscal year. The Committee is currently preparing a new cost estimate for the project based on today's increased construction costs.

In anticipation of beginning the project in FY 2006, Chief Duff has begun to make arrangements for relocation of the fire equipment to the outlying stations and the Headquarters across Main Street to GAR Hall.

Tina Sherwood, Chair
Kate Boland
Thomas Carey, Jr.
Chief Mark Duff, Ex-Officio
Alison Ferrante
Tally Lauter
Paul J. Murphy, III
Carl Peterson

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Nine members comprise the Community Preservation Committee - one each appointed by and from the Conservation Commission, the Historic Commission, the Planning Board, the Housing Authority and the Board of Selectmen, and four citizens at large, two appointed by the Board of Selectmen and two by the Moderator. The Committee reviews applications submitted by Town bodies and citizens at large for funding for projects involving the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, historic resources and low and moderate income housing and makes recommendations to Town Meeting regarding the use of the Town's Community Preservation Fund for those purposes. That fund is composed of a 1.5% surtax on Town real estate taxes effective beginning July 1, 2001, state matching grants payable each October 15 based on the surtax revenues for the fiscal year ending the prior June 30, and interest on the accumulated funds. The total amount that will have been collected by the Fund through June 30, 2006 will be approximately \$4,300,000, including a total of \$1,900,000 in state grants. The Community Preservation Act requires that at least 10% of each year's Community Preservation revenues be spent or set aside for each of the three Community Preservation categories. The remaining 70% is available for spending on any one or more of the categories as the Committee and Town Meeting see fit.

The Committee recommended and the 2005 Town Meeting approved three historic preservation projects, including a historic preservation construction survey for the Old Ship Meeting House (\$40,000) and the reconstruction and conservation of the historic sign on the Torrent Firehouse in West Hingham (\$36,050). The Committee and Town Meeting also approved a contribution from the Community Preservation Fund of \$50,000 to the Town's Conservation Fund for use by the Conservation Commission in paying for pre-acquisition costs and down payments in connection with the acquisition of open space.

Giving effect to amounts authorized and set aside for spending through June 30, 2005, a total of approximately \$2,493,000 will be available as of June 30, 2006 for additional Community Preservation projects, of which approximately \$158,000, \$107,000 and \$425,000 will be required to be spent or set aside for open space, historic resources and affordable housing, respectively, and the remaining \$1,803,000 may be spent on any one or more Community Preservation categories. As of the writing of this report the Committee has approved and recommended to voters for approval at the 2006 Town Meeting three open space and three historic preservation projects totaling \$653,000, and has an affordable housing proposal and additional open space projects under consideration.

Valerie A. Talmage, Chair
Judith M. Cole, Vice Chair
John L. Davenport, Vice Chair
Susan B. Berry
Willis Ertman

Sarah Corey
Thomas J. Maloney
Mathew MacIver
James R. Watson

COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

*A*t Town Meeting in 2004, Hingham residents approved a \$1.7 million bond to replace the South Shore Country Club's aging irrigation system, parts of which were over forty years old. In 2005, construction was well underway on the new irrigation system. More than simply a replacement for the old system, the new irrigation system will cover the entire golf course, using about the same volume of water as the old system. Additionally, the new system connects a secondary water source, using water from a pond at the rear of the property. To control proper irrigation levels, the system also includes a weather station and a computer control console.

With an eye to planning the future of the South Shore Country Club, two endeavors began in 2005. The Selectmen appointed a seven-member Long Range Planning Committee to evaluate the current use of the facility and to propose the best use of the South Shore Country Club for the upcoming years. Chairman David Ramsdell and members Kate Mahoney, Tom Campbell, Mary O'Connell, Bernard O'Neil, Jim Welch and Kevin Taylor are well underway toward those goals.

The Country Club Management Committee also engaged the services of an architectural firm to conduct a facility study. Once completed, the study will prioritize the capital projects necessary to maintain and improve the facility.

Two members of the Country Club Management Committee, Ted Underwood and Tim Curry, moved from the area to pursue career opportunities. Their contributions to the South Shore Country Club over the years are much appreciated. The Country Club Management Committee welcomed two new members, Brian Elsdon and Matthew Havens, who have already become actively involved in the oversight of the South Shore Country Club.

Dan Walsh, Chairman
Sarah Boynton
Brian Elsdon
Jack Gamache
Matt Havens

Nora Berard, Director of Operations

DEPARTMENT OF ELDER SERVICES

The Hingham Department of Elder Services is the town focal point for the delivery of social services to Hingham's population 60 and older. Its mission is to support the independence of Hingham's senior citizens, advocate for their needs and enhance the quality of their lives. In an atmosphere of respect for the older adult, the Department of Elder Services coordinates programs and services to encourage self-reliance, good health and community involvement."

This mission statement, was revised and adopted by the Board of Elder Services on November 13, 2005 and is a result of the Board's goal to pursue National Senior Center Accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC). This major initiative, is providing the Department of Elder Services with an opportunity to look at 9 major areas of operation and identifying the Department's strengths and weaknesses as well as developing both short and long-term goals that will better meet the needs of Hingham's older adults. The tasks associated for accreditation are many and are being accomplished through a dedicated group of individuals who represent both the Board and staff of Elder Services, community members, and constituents. It is expected that the on-site accreditation visit by NISC will take place in June 2006.

Supporting caregivers of older adults continued to be a goal of the Department during 2005. The Caregiver Support Group continued to meet and discuss issues of common concern as well as receive useful information and tips about relieving the stress of care giving.

Transportation continues to be a critical service to assist elders in accessing medical appointments, grocery shopping, accomplishing daily errands, attending the Senior Center and taking local trips that enhance one's quality of life. In March of 2005, a new lift-equipped Ford Freestar was purchased for use in transporting individuals to and from medical appointments. This replacement vehicle was made possible through the generous donations of Hingham's residents. In July, we received notice from South Shore Elder Services that we had been awarded a replacement vehicle for the shared van with Cohasset, and we expect receipt of this vehicle in 2006. During 2005, 7218 one-way transportation trips were provided to 403 different older adults living in Hingham.

Outreach provides a vital link for older adults and family members in accessing needed community services. During 2005, assisting individuals with sorting through the complicated process of enrolling in Medicare D became a priority of this program. With increased heating

costs, the program witnessed increased requests for help to complete benefits forms for fuel assistance as well as provide direct assistance to individuals with their heating bills.

Other program accomplishments in 2005 included Housing That Works – A Free Conference for Older Adults Staying in their Own Homes. This daylong conference followed the 2004 conference that was targeted to individuals who wanted to downsize. The 2005 conference again attracted over 100 individuals, was co-sponsored with Cohasset Elder Affairs, and received community support from Allerton House at Hingham and Linden Ponds. Workshops ranged from financial information to accessing in-home services.

Living Well, a 12-week program that aimed at those looking to develop a healthier lifestyle, was made possible through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. This program was a consortia effort among the communities of Cohasset, Hingham, Hull, and Weymouth, and South Shore Elder Services, with Hingham serving as the lead agency.

As a part of this report, we would like to recognize the achievements of some of our staff members during 2005. Caroline Gibson, Secretary, earned a Certificate of Gerontology from UMASS Boston in December; Karen Sadlon, Outreach Coordinator, was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from South Shore Elder Services for her work and dedication to the elders of Hingham; and Barbara Farnsworth, Director, was the recipient of the Massachusetts Councils on Aging and Senior Center Directors Advocate of the Year Award.

No Department functions without the hard work and dedication of many individuals. Our deepest appreciation is extended to Connie Doolittle, Linda Hurley, Carolyn Kelliher, and Joseph Willard who retired from the Elder Services Board in June. Also, we would be remiss if we did not thank the 200 volunteers who unselfishly gave 11,746 hours helping us in the delivery of services to Hingham's elders. We would not be able to function without these dedicated and caring individuals.

Barbara Farnsworth, Director
Ruth Briggs, Chairman
Robert Montgomery, Vice Chairman
William Scott, Secretary
James Plotner, Treasurer
Ann Condon

Thomas Hickey
Susan Kiernan
Joanne Pollick
Mary Thomas
May Vuilleumier
Stephen Waynen

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE

In keeping with a tradition that dates back more than 150 years, Hingham's 2005 Fourth of July parade was "bigger and better than ever," said Selectmen Mathew MacIver, "without losing any of the spirit that has always made the Fourth of July special in Home Sweet Hingham."

The 17-member parade committee began planning in January and received immeasurable support from Ben Matthews, a representative of the Hingham-Hull Rotary Club, and Hingham Police Lieutenant Brad Durant. The 2005 parade, with the theme "Home, Sweet Home", included antique cars, floats, bands, clowns, and performers cheered on by almost 9,000 spectators.

Each year the fifth grade classes from all three elementary schools compete to design the best illustration representing the year's parade theme. For 2005, the winning design was drawn by Austin Murphy. Lissa King and Alex Vitulano were awarded second and third place respectively for their designs. The winning image was made into a button with special help from Jerry Goldberg Enterprises and sold by local merchants and members of the Hingham-Hull Rotary Club. All of the money raised from the sale of these buttons went to finance the parade, which is fully funded through fundraisers and private donations. In addition to button sales, the parade raised money from the annual Stars and Stripes golf outing, which was organized by a committee chaired by Ron Sherwood.

Fitting to the theme of "Home Sweet Home", the 2005 parade's Grand Marshall was Bob Snowber, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Snowber and the three fifth grade button winners rode in luxury cars donated by Shaw Saab & Coastal Nissan. In keeping with tradition, the parade was led by Uncle Sam, played by Hingham's own Dr. Al Carpenter. Though the parade had many wonderful and patriotic displays, the award for the "Best of Parade" was given to SU Escuela. Additionally, the "Most Beautiful" float award was given to Boy Scout Troop / Cub Scout Pack 52, the "Most Original" award went to the Carpenters Union Local 424, and the "Most Patriotic" award went to Beth McDaid and Marie Martin Fluet.

The committee greatly appreciates the support given by the residents and businesses of Hingham. In particular, we would like to thank the Hingham Selectmen and other local officials for their participation and support; Lieutenant Brad Durant and the entire police and fire department, both of whom are crucial to the parade's success each year; the town's Public Works Department; the fifth grade art teachers who

help facilitate the button contest; Aquarion Water Company; and the R.A.D. Corporation. The committee would also like to thank the Hingham Journal, its editor Mary Ford, and staff writer Carol Briton Meyer for their continued support, publicity and interest.

The 2005 Committee members were:

Mary Ann Blackmur	Kate Boland
Liz Bridges	Megan Buhr
Al Carpenter	Eric Gauthier
Susan Hagstrom	Phil Herzberg
Mary Ellen Holt	Ben Matthews
Shanna Nicholson	Ruth Potter
Ed Rinella	Lew Scotten
Ginny Spannagel	Cindy Tonucci
Sherry Westleman	

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC MEMORIAL HALL

Nearly three years later, in a newly restored and handicapped accessible building, the Town of Hingham's 127 year old historical gem, welcomed back its Veterans to the G.A.R. Memorial Hall in March of 2006. The added convenience of an elevator-equipped building will be welcomed by the veterans of World War II, as well as veterans from Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and Iraq, as they attend meetings, dinners and other activities at GAR Hall.

The basement level has been waterproofed and covered with a new epoxy floor. The walls have been smartly painted by volunteer veterans and hung with irreplaceable pictures, relics and other regalia. Until the Fire Department's new facilities are completed on Main Street, the Fire Chief and key staff members will maintain their administrative offices in a section of the first floor and on the balcony level.

The Trustees are unanimous in the planning underway for the building's use by The Town's students for lectures and historical readings and other activities having the building '**come alive**' for the Historical benefits of all the community. Come and join us.

Trustees

Ernest Sofis, Chairman
Robert Shepard
Arthur Smith

HANNAH LINCOLN WHITING FUND

*I*n 1915, the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund was established by Ada Bacon in memory of her mother. Ada Bacon gave \$15,000 to the Town of Hingham to be invested with the intention that the income generated from this gift be used for the purpose of "relieving the necessities of the deserving poor or unfortunate of South Hingham."

Opening Balance (1/1/05)	\$540.10
Income	
Interest from checking account	\$2.11
Investment distribution from Hingham Treasurer	\$673.00
Total Funds Available	\$1,215.21
Distribution	\$700.00
Closing Balance (12/31/05)	\$515.21

Paul Chaffee
Judith Belknap
Patricia Pierce

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Originally formed in 1957 as the Dredging Committee, the Harbor Development Committee (HDC) was established in 1971 by Town Meeting Warrant Article as a six member advisory committee with a mandate to “coordinate the planning and development of the tidal water areas within the Town borders. Membership has since increased to seven plus the Harbormaster ex officio. HDC works towards carrying out its assigned responsibilities within a basic goal framework which includes (1) environmental preservation and conservation, (2) expansion of waterways access and user base and (3) improved channels of communication among all waterways interests.

These basic goals are now expressed in the Hingham Harbor and Tidal Waterways Management Plan, revised in February of 2006. A combined effort of past and present HDC members, the plan provides a history of Hingham’s tidal waterways together with a list of specific objectives for their preservation and development. Current conditions are sketched, problems and possible solutions are presented and specific projects, plans and priorities are discussed. Copies of the plan are on file at the office of the Town Clerk. The plan should be regarded as a work in progress.

HDC has supervised the restoration of Whitney Wharf Park. The landscaping of the park was completed in the fall of 2004. Original plans included a pedestrian bridge between Whitney Wharf and the Town pier; the bridge is in the planning process.

Whitney Wharf is but one link in a chain of improvements needed for the harbor waterfront to reach its full potential as a community resource. HDC submitted an application for State funding assistance in conjunction with repairs of the inner harbor bulkheads. We are continually following with the DEM to determine the status of our request.

Also HDC is in the process of preparing an application to Community Preservation for funds necessary to have a complete and detailed Inner Harbor plan developed. The plan is intended to provide specific concrete plans for a full pedestrian walkway around the inner harbor and a specific set of priorities for future development of the waterfront properties. The major goal of the plan will be additional public access to the waterfront property.

Also HDC is discussing the improvement and upgrading of Barnes II (Steamboat Wharf) with various Town entities and the Lincoln Marine Center.

Public access to the Bouve property is a concern of the committee; a grant to provide access to this property was received in February of 2002. We are currently working with the Planning Board and the shipyard developer to make sure that grant funds are spent appropriately and there will be public parking as well as public access to the Bouve property.

Harbor dredging is a major activity of the committee; the committee is working with the DEM and other State agencies to make sure that the planned Harbor dredging scheduled for 2007 takes place in 2007. The committee will contact our elected representatives to make sure that the appropriate state funding is available.

All of these projects require revenue enhancement. Mooring fees have helped and their contribution to waterways management expenses will increase as experience lends itself to their application. Grant monies continue to be sought. HDC has worked effectively with Community Preservation in conjunction with the Whitney Wharf project and we hope to work with Community Preservation on future projects.

The Harbor Development Committee continues to expand its activities in the areas of communication and outreach. HDC co-sponsors the spring and fall harbor cleanups in conjunction with other Town civic organizations. An increasing number of waterways projects have been brought before HDC for recommendations prior to presentation at required regulatory boards and commissions. HDC encourages this latter practice since it is clearly in line with its established mandate.

James Doyle, Chairman
Sturtevant English, Jr., Secretary
Warren J. Nottleson, Treasurer
Nick Amdur
Richard Callahan
Margaret Merrill
Gregory M. Synnott

Elizabeth Harling, Associate,
John Sullivan, Associate,
David Beal, Associate,
Ben Matthews, Associate

John Souther, Ex Officio

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board consists of three elected members from the community. The term of office is for three years. The Board oversees a staff of 4 full time employees (Executive Health Officer, Administrative Secretary, Public Health Nurse and Health Agent) and two part time employees (Health Clerk and a Food Inspector).

The Board of Health's jurisdiction and responsibilities includes such activities as adult immunization programs, domestic abuse, crisis intervention, Food Establishment licensing and inspections, surface water quality enforcement, tobacco control program, rabies control, West Nile Virus surveillance, local emergency planning, Right-to-Know program, septic system approval and inspection, bioterrorism response, Body Art licensing, recombinant DNA licensing, group day care licensing and inspection, communicable disease surveillance, massage, camp licensing, tanning salon licensing, building permit review, subdivision review, private well permitting, housing code compliance and much more.

There are several new challenges, which face the Board of Health in the immediate future.

First, the result of 9/11 has caused the Board of Health to become better prepared for man made and natural disasters including bioterrorism, hurricanes and the like. To prepare for these events Health Department staff have attended trainings sponsored by the State and Federal Governments and have prepared specific emergency response detailed plans for emergency responses. Alliances have been established between the Town of Hingham and many of the surrounding communities including State and Federal governmental agencies. We have received federal grants, which are being used to enhance and expand our computer capabilities during major disaster events and for day-to-day management of communicable disease investigations.

The Board has been faced with the ongoing challenges of immunizing those residents in need of influenza vaccinations. Over the past several years the Health Department has had to deal with influenza vaccine allotments from the State have been small in size with staggered deliveries. In response to these challenges, the Health Department has been able to conduct small, age specific clinics each week making sure that those residents at risk received their vaccination in a timely manner.

In addition to our yearly influenza clinics, our Department has been preparing for an anticipated Influenza pandemic. Volunteers have been retained, immunization sites have been identified and procedures have

been established for such events. Not only has this prepared us for the pandemic flu but it has also been useful for establishing mass immunization clinic procedures for other events such as bioterrorism.

The Board has been actively involved with protecting our aquifer/water supply from pollutants and by working with the Water Company to assure that the aquifer is not overstressed.

The protection of the Town's water supply has been managed through the establishment and enforcement of strict local septic system regulations utilizing state of the art design and maintenance agreements for not just those septic systems, which are located in environmentally sensitive areas but for all proposed septic systems.

The Board has not only expressed their concerns for selling water to surrounding communities but has also met with the Water Company over the purchasing water from Cohasset to discuss any potential effect this may have on the quality of Hingham's water.

The Hingham Board of Health deals with many issues beyond those that have been discussed here. Public Health continues to identify new areas of concern. The Hingham Board of Health is committed to respond to those concerns and to work hard to protect the public health within our community.

Permits issued in 2005 by the Board of Health are as follows:

Day Care Centers	6	Food Establishment.	135
Retail Food	56	Store Milk.....	93
Catering	2	Frozen Desserts.....	15
Residential F.S.....	0	Mobile Food Service .	15
Milk Vehicle.....	2	Septage Haulers	38
Rubbish Haulers	20	Septic Installers.....	43
Tanning Salons	3	Funeral Directors	2
Semi-Public Pools.....	6	Pool Constr.Permits ..	25
Trailer Parks	1	Day Camps	10
Septic Permits.....	132	Variance Appl.	62
Building Permits	1062	Treatment Plant	138
Massage Business	8	Tobacco Sales	23
Massage Practice	14	Private Well Permits..	30
Soil Evaluations.	125		

Peter Bickford, Chairman
Stephen White, Member
Kirk Shilts, D.C., Member

TOWN HISTORIAN

In 2005, work continued on the Greenbush tunnel, informally known as "the little dig". Problems with traffic in the Square were continuous but varying, with sometimes the crossing from South to North on Main being blocked off and sometimes that on Central. By the date of Christmas In the Square, work on the tunnel was so far advanced as to allow a walking tour of it to be offered as a prize.

Merchants in the Square continued to be troubled by the lessening of business there. The opening of the Derby Street Shoppes in South Hingham contributed to this but the question of parking in the Square loomed as a problem still needing to be solved. The closing of long time hardware store Walsh and Packard caused a further worry but another hardware store took its place within three months, alleviating some of the worry.

Heavy traffic on Main Street from one end to the other made many citizens call for a traffic light at the most dangerous intersection, High Street. Although this had been a source of concern for sometime, other citizens hoped to avoid lights on our historic streets. Finally this fall the Selectmen made the decision to recommend lights and an informal movement began to seek the quickest way to get them installed. If done by the town, a vote would have to be taken at the April Town Meeting before any action could be initiated.

Continuing new building, both by developers and by private enterprise results in an influx of new citizens which, while increasing population, compounds traffic problems. I regret that in my last year's report I overlooked a significant event of that year. It was the building of a Veterans' Memorial, by private subscription, on the front lawn of the Town Hall on Central Street. This Memorial was dedicated with suitable observances on November 11, 2004. It is a tasteful and attractive structure which does honor to our Veterans and adds beauty to our Town Offices location.

Winston Hall
Town Historian

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40C of the general laws of the Town of Hingham, the Historic Districts Commission is charged with preserving the historical and architectural legacy of the town by reviewing the appropriateness of all proposed exterior alterations and renovations of historic properties, as well as the design of new construction located within the town's six local historic districts. Each year the Commission or the Administrator reviews hundreds of applications seeking approval for exterior work on historic properties. In addition, the Administrator and Commission members respond to numerous and varied requests for information, some requiring considerable research. This year, as in the last several years, the trends toward renovation, additions to existing homes and buildings, and new construction in historic districts continued.

The Historic Districts Commission preserves the unique character of Hingham by serving as a design review board. The Commission consists of five members and five alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three-year terms. The Historic Districts By-Law requires that the Commission include an architect, one designee each from the Planning Board and Historical Society, and a resident from an historic district. The knowledge and expertise of Districts Commission members in the areas of building and landscape architecture, architectural history, and history of the town have proved invaluable to the owners of historic properties.

The public is always welcome to attend Commission hearings held at the Hingham Town Office Building on Thursday evenings as scheduled. Public notices appear in the local newspaper and are posted on the Town Office bulletin board on the first floor; abutters located within one hundred feet of a property being reviewed are notified. In addition to the public hearing process, the Commission encourages applicants to schedule a preliminary design discussion prior to submitting an application. Commission approval for exterior work in an historic district precedes a building permit. The Commission appreciates the continued support of the Building Department and the Town Administrator's Office; and the cooperation of the Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, other town offices and the public.

The *Historic Districts Handbook* defines the guidelines for proposed work in a district. It is a valuable resource to property owners, architects, contractors, realtors, and to other communities, which often use Hingham's handbook as a model. The handbook is available free of charge to all property owners within historic districts and can be obtained from the Historical Commission Office.

The Historic Districts Commission thanks the Historical Commission for its fiscal support. These appropriated funds cover the general operating expenses, and the salary for the part-time administrator who serves both Commissions. The Commission Office, on the second floor of the Town Office Building, is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

The members and alternates of the Historic Districts Commission are devoted to preserving the character and aesthetic qualities of Hingham's irreplaceable historic resources. The Commission thanks former HDC Chair Sally Weston for agreeing to extend her service for another year by serving as an alternate. Over the years the Town has benefited greatly from her knowledge of, and commitment to preserving Hingham's architectural heritage. The Commission also thanks Gene Raymond for contributing his expertise as an architect, and for being instrumental in the development of local guidelines for Greenbush mitigation. The Commission welcomes back former member Bill Thayer.

MEMBERS

Scott Ford, Chairman
Peter Barlow, Vice-Chairman
Scott Butler
Marty Saunders
William Thayer

ALTERNATES

Winston Hall
Sean Papich
Ben Wilcox

ADMINISTRATOR

Andrea Young

HINGHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Hingham Historical Commission is the town's agency responsible for identifying, evaluating and protecting the historic, architectural and archeological assets within the town. The Historical commission qualifies on an annual basis for Certified Local Government status with the Department of Interior and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

The Hingham Historical Commission administers the *Preservation Projects Fund*, a fund established to carry out projects and programs important for preserving the historic character of the town. Grants, private contributions, and receipts from the sale of the books on Hingham's history, Not All Is Changed and When I Think of Hingham, provide the income for this fund. Through the Preservation Projects Fund, the Commission contributes to the town's preservation efforts in various ways; exploring measures to mitigate the impacts of the Greenbush Line, supporting the cataloguing of archival materials, making informational materials on the historical and architectural assets of the town available to the public, and publishing the aforementioned histories are notable examples. Monies from this fund are also used to maintain town assets such as the Memorial Bell Tower, the Lincoln statue, historical markers, and the Iron Horse, "Victory", on Hingham Harbor. A generous contribution from the Orchard Foundation will enable the Commission to clean and refurbish several of these assets during the coming year.

The Hingham Historical Commission maintains the inventory of the town's historic assets, which includes survey information on over 1,400 properties. Many of these properties are located within Hingham's six local historic districts and two National Register historic districts. Updates are made to the inventory as more historical properties are researched, and additional information is added to properties currently listed. The *Town of Hingham Comprehensive Community Inventory* is available on the town's website.

The Commission administers specific statutes that protect historic properties, such as the demolition delay by-law, and works with property owners and developers to consider alternatives to demolishing residences and outbuildings that contribute to the town's historic character. The Commission also advises on environmental reviews through the federal "Section 106" historic review process and the Massachusetts *State Register of Historic Places* program. The adoption of the *Community Preservation Act* presents an additional opportunity to preserve the history and character of the town. With Community Preservation funding approved by 2005 Town Meeting, the Historical

Commission will be able to restore the entrance to the Liberty Plain Cemetery and contribute to the surrounding streetscape by installing a period wrought iron fence and gate.

The Historical Commission meets at the Hingham Town Office Building on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. The Administrator's office is located on the second floor and is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

The Commission thanks Michael Studley for his many contributions over his two-term tenure, and especially for his dedicated service as Chairman during his second term. The Commission also thanks Stephanie Shute Kelsch for her willingness to serve for one term. The Commission welcomes new members Virginia Tay and Sarah Dewey.

Gary Tondorf-Dick, Chairman
Kathleen Sutton
Arlyn Vogelmann
Will Ertman
Susan Boyd
Virginia Tay
Sarah Dewey
Andrea Young, Administrator

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Committee is one of many state-certified local Partnerships working with the Massachusetts Housing Partnership and Town agencies to preserve existing housing opportunities and increase future housing for low and moderate income persons. Increasing the stock of affordable housing benefits many different constituencies, including Town employees without the resources to live in the Town they serve, older Hingham residents on fixed incomes needing more appropriate sized housing, former residents seeking to return to Town, young adults raised in Hingham but unable to afford a Hingham residence, and other persons with a stake in the community and a desire to live in it.

The members of the Housing Partnership Committee are appointed by the Board of Selectmen, and the Committee advises and makes recommendations to that Board. the Committee's specific responsibilities include evaluating the housing needs of Hingham, formulating appropriate housing goals, reviewing Local Initiative Projects, identifying opportunities to enhance Hingham's affordable housing inventory, implementing and overseeing Town-initiated affordable housing projects, and supporting legislation to advance these objectives.

In particular, the 2003 Town Meeting charged the Board of Selectmen with developing a plan for the production of affordable housing on the "Selectmen's Parcel" in the old Naval Ammunition Depot off Beal Street. An article authorizing such a plan was approved at the 2005 Town Meeting. An RFP for this project has been written by the Housing Partnership Committee and will be released in the spring of 2006 after review by the Board of Selectmen and appropriate Town officials. In addition to this project, the Committee is also exploring other proposals for affordable housing in Hingham and taking additional steps to facilitate its objectives.

The Committee appreciates the cooperation of the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as other Town boards and officials. The Committee also appreciates input and assistance from Town citizens, all of whom are welcome to attend its meetings.

James O'Brien, Chair
Gretchen Condon
Eric Gauthier
John Sneath
Mathew MacIver, ex officio

Robert Bone
William Fideli
Rev. Gary Ludwig
Lee Vigil

HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Board of Selectmen appointed our committee in September 2004 in order to address comments by the Advisory Committee regarding the operations and financial management of the Hingham Municipal Light Department (HMLP).

HMLP is currently undergoing a large growth period with increased demand on its services due to development in all areas of the town. There have also been recent management changes at HMLP and changes in the electric power industry due to the de-regulation of the investor owned companies which generate the power that HMLP distributes. These factors have presented the Plant with some significant challenges.

The HMLP is governed by Mass G.L Ch 164. Under that statute the Plant is an independent entity governed by an elected board. The Town of Hingham is dependent on the goodwill of the Board and its Manager for its cooperation, coordination with other town departments and town policies. This committee was charged with looking at the Plant and its operations to see what might be improved both within the Plant and in its dealings with the rest of the town departments

The Committee identified five areas and has made recommendations of two kinds in those areas. The first is that the Town take some specific action and the second is that the Light Board adopt specific policies and take certain actions which we believe will improve its performance.

The areas and our recommendations for each are summarized as follows:

- I. Governance – The recommendation is that the Town take the necessary actions to add two members, appointed by the Selectmen, to the current, three person, elected board.
- II. Policies and Procedures – The recommendation is that the HMLP Board adopt numerous specific policies to ensure fiscal responsibility, proper internal controls, and Board and employee integrity.
- III. Maintenance, Operations & Growth – The recommendation is that the Board take several specific actions, some of which now are being pursued.

- IV. Town-wide Energy Policy – The recommendation is that the Town establish a long term Town-wide Energy Policy Committee and that HMLP agrees to participate actively in it.
- V. Communications – The recommendation is that the Board adopt specific policies to insure improved communication with the Town, its citizens and the ratepayers.

John Ryan, Chairman
Walter Foskett
Alice P. Granahan
Russell Heissner
John J. Quinn
Nicole Raphaelson

LONG RANGE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Long Range Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee was established to review solid waste disposal alternatives. We continue to support separation and recycling as the best way to minimize solid waste disposal costs.

The trash transfer area is working well with only minimum intermittent delays. We are contracted with SEMASS for the next ten years for incineration of our household rubbish at the trash to energy plant in Rochester, MA. We are presently transporting bulky waste and construction and demolition (C & D) to the Bourne Landfill. With tipping fees for bulky and C & D on the rise, we are investigating more cost effective alternatives for disposing of bulky waste.

Work has been completed on the renovation of the recycling area. The area has been redesigned to consolidate the collection of all recyclables in one area within, and adjacent to the former Baler building. Future work includes repair of the building and final capping of the remainder of the landfill.

With disposal cost projected to rise steadily in the future, the economic benefits of separation and recycling cannot be overemphasized. Albeit, Hingham has one of the highest rates of recycling in the South Shore, we urge residents to maximize their recycling efforts and reduce the amount of waste generated. We will continue to investigate methods of increasing recycling numbers, including enforcement of waste bans and public education regarding the benefits of recycling.

A Committee, (with participation from the Selectman's Office and Hingham Rotary Club) distributed a flyer on June 25th and June 26th at the Transfer Station. This flyer made residents aware of the recycling program; the financial impact on the town and that recycling is mandatory. The annual Hazardous Waste Collection day this past year had 248 vehicles participating, a significant increase over last year's 170 vehicles.

We thank you for your patience in dealing with the ongoing changes at the Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility and urge you to continue your efforts to help us reduce waste disposal through separation, recycling and composting.

Peter Stathopoulos
Helga Jorgensen
Donald N. Jensen

Patricia A. Bickford
Timothy H. White
Marianne MacDonald

Maureen Devine
Stacy Havens

Pat Durkin

Ex-officio Members:

Joseph Stigliani, Public Works Superintendent

Randy Sylvester, Assistant Public Works Superintendent

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Hingham's membership and participation on the MBTA Advisory Board has had little if any impact on the central transportation concern of the Town in recent years – rehabilitation of the long-abandoned Greenbush branch of the Old Colony Railroad.

The Advisory Board met only three times in 2005, and dealt mainly with system-wide financial issues. There was no discussion of matters directly relating to Greenbush, and only passing interest expressed in water and bus transportation affecting the lives of Hingham residents.

It may be of interest to those who have followed twists and turns in the 20-year decision-making process leading to rehabilitation of the Greenbush line that the rationale originally offered in support of the project has now been called into serious question, not only by experts at Harvard's Kennedy School, and the Massachusetts Taxpayers Association, but by the Boston Globe – a longtime supporter.

Particularly noteworthy was a long article in The Boston Globe Magazine "*Commuter Rail at a Crossroads*" - January 22, 2006. The article pointed out that Governor Romney's decision to go ahead with Greenbush after a 6-month delay to reconsider the project had less to do with its intrinsic merits than with the feared consequences of violating a 1990 "treaty" with the Conservation Law Foundation allowing the "Big Dig" to go forward in exchange for a promise to undertake a laundry list of public transportation projects – including Greenbush.

The Globe story, citing statistics and the views of knowledgeable observers, points out that commuter rail ridership has fallen short of projections almost everywhere, raising doubts about the wisdom of the huge capital costs of such investments.

Charles Y. Chittick, Jr.
MBTA Advisory Board Designee

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is the regional planning and economic development district representing 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston. In addition, the Council shares oversight responsibility for the region's federally funded transportation program as one of 14 members of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Council's legislative mandate is to provide technical and professional resources to improve the physical, social and economic condition of its district, and to develop sound responses to issues of regional significance. The Council provides research, studies, publications, facilitation and technical assistance in the areas of land use and the environment, housing, transportation, water resources management, economic development, demographic and socioeconomic data, legislative policy and interlocal partnerships that strengthen the operation of local governments. More information about MAPC is available at www.mapc.org.

The Council is governed by 101 municipal government representatives, 21 gubernatorial appointees, and 10 state and 3 City of Boston officials. An Executive Committee composed of 25 members oversees agency operations and appoints an executive director. The agency employs approximately 30 professional and administrative staff. Funding for Council activities is derived from contracts with government agencies and private entities, foundation grants, and a per-capita assessment charged to municipalities within the district.

In the past year, the Council has focused on initiatives that respond to regional challenges, some of which include:

MetroFuture -- Making a Greater Boston Region: State law requires that MAPC prepare, from time to time, a comprehensive regional plan. This planning process is now underway and is called the *MetroFuture* initiative. It started by asking the people of Greater Boston about their aspirations for the future of the region, and continues with a comparison between those visions and the future that will arise if our current trends continue unchanged. We are finding both exciting prospects and interesting challenges lie ahead if we continue our current pattern of growth and development. Here are just a few of the results, out to the year 2030:

- **Population will grow slowly, while the number of households will grow more quickly.** By 2030, the region's population will have increased by 10%, approximately a third as fast as the projected U.S. population growth (29%). The number of households is projected to increase by 19% for that same time period, at a greater

rate than the population, due to a continued decline in household size.

- **Consumption of land continues apace.** Fifteen percent of land that was open in 2000 will be developed by 2030.
- **An older population will demand more homes and health care.** There will be declines in all age groups under 55 and substantial increases in empty-nesters and elders, creating demand for different housing and contributing to an expected near-tripling of health care costs from 2000 to 2030.
- **Water in short supply outside the MWRA.** Communities with public water systems not connected to the MWRA system will face serious water constraints by 2030; approximately half will exceed their permitted withdrawal rates.

These are among the results that will serve as a starting point for discussions across the region about alternative paths the region could take, beginning with a series of briefings early in 2006. Visit www.MetroFuture.org to learn more about the project, and contact MetroFuture@mapc.org to learn about how to host a briefing about the region's future.

Municipal Planning: MAPC continues to assist municipalities in implementing Smart Growth Principles through local zoning changes. Under the Vision 2020 program, MAPC provided zoning analyses or draft bylaws to the towns of Duxbury, Stoughton and Hanover. Through FY05 funding from Smart Growth Technical Assistance Grants, MAPC assisted Topsfield in developing a Low Impact Development storm-water and erosion control bylaw. Under funding secured through the Priority Development Fund, MAPC is developing mixed use or multi-family bylaws for the towns of Bedford, Stow, Millis, Southborough and Stoughton. Just recently, MAPC received notice of approval of its application for Smart Growth Technical Assistance funds to assist the towns of Hopkinton, Ashland and Southborough in examining alternative futures for the 900 acre Weston Nurseries property. MAPC also continues to provide information to municipalities regarding the Smart Growth Overlay Districts enabled under Chapter 40R.

Metro Mayors Coalition: MAPC works with the mayors and city managers of 10 municipalities in the urban core on issues such as group purchasing, employee health insurance, regional public safety, and municipal public finance. Through this work, MAPC staffed the statewide Municipal Finance Task Force which reached consensus on a variety of public policy changes to reinvigorate the partnership between local and state government. We also formulated an \$11 million grant program to fund inter-local and multi-disciplinary approaches to stemming the tide of

youth violence, drug use, and gang activities in the region. This program became law late in 2005.

The Metro Data Center, an official US Census affiliate, provides in-depth analysis of trends in the region and conducts research on emerging issues that will strengthen the Council's ability to plan for the future. The Center works to increase public understanding of and access to demographic, social, economic and land use data and trends that affect the Boston metropolitan area. The Center also releases regular publications to maintain a general awareness about how growth continues to impact communities. The Center provides current accurate data to legislators, municipalities, public and private agencies, and the general public about growth trends in the communities and subregions of the greater Boston area.

Transportation planning: MAPC staff played an active role in helping to revise the MassHighway Design Manual, now known as the Project Development and Design Guidebook. As vice chair of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization, MAPC worked to develop the annual Transportation Improvement Program, including transportation spending priorities for the region. We also developed population and employment projections to the year 2030, to be used in scenario modeling in the new Regional Transportation Plan and MetroFuture (see above) in 2006.

Legislative Advocacy: The Legislative Committee has worked to promote legislation that is of regional interest and is informed by smart growth principles (visit http://www.mapc.org/regional_planning/MAPC_Smart_Growth.html to view the list of principles).

At the beginning of the legislative session the Committee recommended for endorsement a full legislative agenda, which was subsequently endorsed by MAPC's Executive Committee. Among many items, the priorities include reform of the state's surplus land disposition policy; recapitalization of the brownfields redevelopment fund; reform of the state's antiquated zoning laws; and repeat offender legislation. Contact Legislative Director Joel Barrera at jbarrera@mapc.org to learn more about the committee's priorities and how your community can get involved in regional advocacy efforts.

Metropolitan Highway System Advisory Board: MAPC staffs this board, established in 1997 by the Commonwealth to advise the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority on issues relative to land use, air rights, zoning, and environmental impacts associated with development of land owned by the authority. In 2005, the Board reviewed a number of

Requests for Proposals and development proposals for various parcels along the Central Artery surface.

Regional Services Consortiums: The Regional Consortiums Project collectively procured more than \$3,000,000 in office supplies for 32 municipalities, and highway maintenance services valued at \$16,000,000 for South Shore and MetroWest cities and towns. The project also facilitates collegial forums among members' chief administrative officers that focus on collective problem solving and resource sharing. MAPC, in partnership, with the Greater Boston Police Council, assists over 300 units of local government in procuring police, public works and general use vehicles, along with various public safety supplies.

Public Safety and Homeland Security: MAPC provides planning and fiduciary services to the Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council (NERAC), the Northeastern Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC) and the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council (METROLEC). Activities include procurement, research, and planning to enhance the delivery of public safety services and to ensure the region is prepared for either a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

Hazard Mitigation: *Pre-Disaster Mitigation* (PDM) plans help communities prepare for natural disasters such as floods, winter storms, wind, and geologic hazards. In 2005, MAPC completed PDM plans for 10 communities on the North Shore and 10 communities on the South Shore. MAPC is also developing PDM plans for 9 Inner Core communities, including Boston and neighboring communities, which will be completed in 2006. FEMA has awarded a grant to MAPC to develop PDM plans in 28 towns in the MAGIC, MetroWest, and North Suburban subregions, beginning in 2006.

495/MetroWest Water Resources Strategy: Working with the 495/MetroWest Corridor Partnership, MAPC completed three major components of a comprehensive water strategy for the corridor:

- the *Massachusetts Low Impact Development Toolkit*, available at <http://www.mapc.org/lid.html>, was published and two regional workshops were held to present the toolkit to the public. The toolkit recently received the 2005 Outstanding Planning Project Award from the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association;
- *Once Is Not Enough*, a guide to water reuse in Massachusetts, was published. It is available at http://www.mapc.org/regional_planning/waterreuse.html; and
- two regional contracts for Leak Detection Services were developed for both the 495/MetroWest communities, as well as

all the entire MAPC region. Learn more about leak detection services that are available to cities and towns in MAPC's January edition of the *Regional Record*, our electronic newsletter, located at www.mapc.org.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: Every five years, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council is responsible for developing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in partnership with the Economic Development Administration. The 2005 CEDS, *Insuring Greater Boston's Prosperity*, contains an analysis of economic trends and conditions and highlights five challenges to economic well-being. It sets a context for inviting regional participation that moves toward a regional response to the challenges. The report is included in the January edition of MAPC's *Regional Record*, available at www.mapc.org.

Wind Power: Using a grant from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, MAPC recently completed a project to help ten North Shore coastal communities understand opportunities and obstacles to siting land-based wind turbines on municipally-controlled properties. The project helped the communities to identify regulatory barriers to wind, and the environmental and financial impacts of a wind project. Area residents took part in a web-based energy survey and each community received wind information and siting maps. MAPC hosted two wind educational forums as part of the project, helped the city of Lynn to draft a wind turbine siting ordinance and facilitated the creation of Alternative Energy Committees in Gloucester, Swampscott and Rockport to advance the siting of wind turbines in their communities. Information about the North Shore Wind Project is also included in the January *Regional Record* at www.mapc.org.

MEPA Project Reviews: MAPC reviews projects under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and submits comments on projects with significant regional impacts. In 2005, MAPC reviewed 166 MEPA filings (Environmental Notification Forms, Environmental Impact Reports, and Notices of Project Change), and submitted comments to EOEA on 58 of these. One of the most significant reviews of the year was a "Peer Review" conducted by MAPC and the Old Colony Planning Council on the proposed *Village Center Plan* for the former South Weymouth Naval Air Station. Visit http://www.mapc.org/whats_new/SWNAS/SWNAS_Summary_Document.pdf to view our comments.

South Shore Coalition

In 2005, the South Shore Coalition (SSC), one of the eight subregions of MAPC, met on a monthly basis to discuss issues of mutual interest from drinking water supply, Redevelopment of the South Weymouth Naval Air Station, and transportation issues. SSC is comprised of the communities of Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hingham, Hull, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Rockland, Scituate, and Weymouth.

During the year, SSC heard presentations regarding and provided input to MAPC's actions relating to the following regional transportation issues: 2005 Transportation Improvement Program, the Greenbush Commuter Rail project, UPWP Braintree Split Study, and the UPWP Route 53 Corridor Study. SSC participated on the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC), developed a set of subregional legislative priority issues to help guide MAPC's priorities, and reviewed the ongoing efforts of redevelopment taking place at the now closed South Weymouth Naval Air Station. The subregion was briefed periodically on the MetroFuture project, the on-going review of the subregions that is taking place in conjunction with the MAPC strategic planning process, and other activities of MAPC.

MAPC Annual Report prepared and submitted by Marc D. Draisen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council.

MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS' DAY COMMITTEE

*T*he committee worked overtime this year and both the Memorial Day and Veterans' Day observances were well thought out, well-attended events. Colonel Edward Barr USMC was Grand Marshall and the main speaker for Hingham's Memorial Day observances. Colonel Barr spoke on the changing role of human intelligence in a modern "War on Terrorism".

Captain William Ramsey US Army was the keynote speaker for November's Veterans' Day observances. His speech on the role of veterans throughout history was well received by the several hundred residents who braved the brisk chill to attend the day's events.

John Webster's cultural exhibit of the Vietnamese people, "The Other Side of the Wall" was displayed in the Sanborn Auditorium as part of the town's Veterans' Day observances and was viewed by hundreds of Hingham residents.

Michael Cunningham
Chairman

HINGHAM MEMORIAL BELL TOWER

The year 2005 brought visitors from England to the Memorial Bell tower. We also had visitors from the surrounding towns along with our local residents and a Cub Scout group visiting the Tower. Many were amazed and even climbed up to where the bells are housed. They were anxious to try their hand at ringing and totally enjoyed the experience.

We rang for Christmas in the Square. It was a very pleasant sound to hear the bells ringing as you walked along Main Street doing your holiday shopping. It certainly helped to put you in the Holiday Spirit. We also rang for several weddings and had a visiting group from Scotland ring a peal.

The Bell Tower Committee members would like to extend a welcome to all visitors and especially encourage potential ringers to the Tower. Having this bell tower in Hingham is an asset to the town. It would be very unfortunate if ringing had to stop because of the lack of ringers. We ring the bells on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Please join us on Tuesday evenings.

Kenneth W. Drescher
Joan R. Getto
Michael Shilhan
John McKendry
Shirley Newsom

Pete Shaw
Betty Shaw
Nancy Stimson
Justine Thurston
Dorcas Wagner

OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE

The Open Space Acquisition Committee is comprised of five members, three appointed by the Conservation Commission and one each by the Planning Board and the Selectmen. With assistance from Conservation Officer Cliff Prentiss, the Committee looks for open space acquisition opportunities for the Town and, when possible, evaluates and negotiates the terms and conditions of such acquisitions and presents them to the Community Preservation Committee for funding from the Town's Community Preservation funds. It was instrumental in the Town's acquisition of the 17.5-acre parcel known as "Schultz's Field" near the golf driving range in 2003 and approximately six acres of relatively rare open wetlands and emergent marshlands off Downer Avenue near Foster School in 2004.

As of the writing of this report, the Committee is actively pursuing other potential open space acquisition opportunities.

John L. Davenport, Chair
Roderick C. Gaskell
Michael Pollard
Peter Rosen

PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2005.

The Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is now composed of all Plymouth County towns, the City of Brockton, and the Town of Cohasset in Norfolk County. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

The 2005 season began with a normal water table until record April precipitation produced large numbers of spring and summer brood mosquitoes throughout the County. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. Ground and aerial larviciding was accomplished using B.t.i., an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began. The Project responded to 11,578 requests for service from residents.

In response to the elevated threat of mosquito borne diseases in the district, we increased our trapping, aerial and ground larviciding, and adult spray in areas of concern to protect public health.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus was first isolated from *Culiseta melanura*, a bird biting species, by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in Kingston on July 25, 2005. Of the season's total of forty five EEE isolates, twenty eight were from Plymouth County as follows: Abington (9/12), Carver (8/17, 8/29, 9/5), Duxbury (8/5), Halifax (8/22, 9/1, 9/5, 9/7), Hanover (9/7, 9/14), Hanson (9/13), Kingston (7/25, 7/27(2), 8/1(2), 8/8, 8/10, 8/22, 9/12, 9/19, 9/28), Lakeville (9/12, 9/19), Pembroke (8/1, 9/9), Rockland (9/7). Four human cases of EEE were confirmed including two fatalities (Halifax and Kingston) and two non-fatal cases (Duxbury and Plymouth). No horses were diagnosed with EEE in Plymouth County. We normally end our spray season on Labor Day. This year, because of increased virus isolations, we extended our residential spray program into October. Town and City based requests for area wide spray continued throughout the district through October 7, 2005. Based on guidelines defined by the "Vector Control Plan to Prevent EEE" in Massachusetts, Southeastern Massachusetts will be at a "moderate level of EEE risk" beginning the 2006 season.

We are pleased to report that in 2005 there were no human or horse West Nile Virus cases in Plymouth County. A total of six birds tested positive for the West Nile Virus in the following five towns: East Bridgewater (1), Hanover (1), Marshfield (1), Pembroke (1), West Bridgewater (2). A total of eight isolations of West Nile Virus in mosquitoes were found in the following towns: Abington (9/13(2)), Bridgewater (9/15), Lakeville (9/26), Middleboro (8/29, 9/29) and Norwell (8/23, 9/13).

The recurring problem of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at www.state.ma.us/dph/wnv/wnv1.htm.

The figures specific to the Town of Hingham are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Hingham residents.

Insecticide Application. 6,112 acres were treated using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in June and the last in October.

During the summer 1,084 catch basins were treated to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Inspectors continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present.

Water Management. During 2005 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 2,395 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito breeding. This work, together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

Machine Reclamation. 835 linear feet of upland ditch was reconstructed in Hingham using the Project's track driven excavator.

Finally, we have been tracking response time, which is the time between notice of a mosquito problem and response by one of our inspectors. The complaint response time in the Town of Hingham was less than two days with more than 496 complaints answered.

Mosquito Survey. A systematic sampling for the mosquitoes in Hingham indicates that *Ae. vexans* was the most abundant species. Other important species collected include *Cq. perturbans* and *Cx. species*.

We encourage citizens or municipal officials to visit our website at www.plymouthmosquito.com or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Raymond D. Zucker
Superintendent

Commissioners:
Carolyn Brennan, Chairman
Michael J. Pieroni, Vice-Chairman
Leighton F. Peck, Secretary
William J. Mara
Kenneth W. Ludlam, Ph.D.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

"Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation."

Walter Cronkite

Ask ten people what HPL means to them, and it is quite possible their first answer will be "books". However, if you ask for a second response, you'll likely receive ten answers as varied as the population we serve.

Among the possible responses are DVDs, music CDs, computers, lectures, art shows, author visits, discussion groups, concerts, independent movies, classes, the used book store, and access to a talented staff for assistance. Our library always has been more than its collections.

This year, for example, we celebrated the centennial of Albert Einstein's famous $E = mc^2$ formula in partnership with WGBH-TV's NOVA program. The celebration involved patrons of all ages in the discussion of Einstein's work and the ethical dilemmas and opportunities it posed for the scientific and world community. In 2005, our Reference Department overseen by Kathy Leahy presented a variety of cultural programs. A grant from the Hingham Cultural Council allowed us to offer a dramatization of the "Spoon River Anthology"; another grant, from the Mass. Foundation for the Humanities, helped cover the cost of a four-part reading and discussion series on "Understanding Islam". We continued our partnership with Buttonwood Books of Cohasset to bring authors to the Library; among the year's visitors were science writer Chet Raymo and crime fiction authors Richard Marinick, William Tapply and Philip Craig. The Library renewed its eight year association with the Boston Classical Guitar Society to deliver a vibrant new season of classical guitar concerts. Reference Librarian Peter Thornell successfully initiated a popular music and poetry feature called "The Long Overdue Coffeehouse".

The Library's Audiovisual Department continued its popular series of independent films. This Department continues to grow and thrive, attracting a core of dedicated patrons from within Town and all across the South Shore. Today, approximately 15% of our 168,000 holdings are audiovisual materials. The Audiovisual Department, under the experienced leadership of Isabel Bellenis, produced a remarkable 34% of our total circulation for the year from its modest 1,200 square foot quarters.

This year, we also kept pace with advancing technology by offering a downloadable audio book service through the Old Colony Library Network. Digital audio books can be downloaded to a computer and subsequently “burned” to CD or transferred to any MP3 player, PDA, or smart phone that will play files in the WMA format. Additionally, we revamped our website to be more customer-focused and to become more accessible to the over 100 vision-restricted residents in Town who use screen reader software to “read” electronically-produced text. Similarly, we installed visual enlargement software on several computers within the Library. Thanks to a generous local donor, we purchased visual enlarging equipment to enlarge printed text to be comfortably read by a low vision reader. Finally, we expanded our wireless Internet access to virtually all public areas and improved the security of our local area network.

The Children’s Department under the guidance of Children’s Librarian, Anna Laszewski, had a very productive year offering a rich array of programs and family events. The Department carried out a full-fledged inventory and focused on rebuilding and strengthening its non-print and biographical collections. Efforts are underway to increase the attractiveness of book displays and to improve browsing within the Children’s Room.

The Circulation Department, headed by Linda Harper, received a “Customer Service Grant” from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The grant’s purpose was to undertake a year-long effort to strengthen staff customer service skills and to author a customer service policy to guide our interaction with the public. The grant met all of its training objectives and led to the successful adoption of a new “Customer Service Policy”. This Department also processed an HPL all-time high 74,374 inter-library loans.

Not all of the Library’s achievements are as visible as those of our public service departments. The Cataloging Department, under the able leadership of Cataloger Juliana Holbrook, added a total of 14,917 items to the collection. The Department also completed a long-needed weeding and reclassification of the ever-popular cookbook collection. The Library’s previous classification of this collection was non-standard and became increasingly ineffective and unwieldy as the collection grew. Work on our historical archives continued as time permitted. We had the opportunity to clean and repair several documents in our Richardson Collection through pro-bono work by Cohasset paper conservator Elizabeth Morse and her Tufts University intern Rachel Nachmann. The conservation work would have cost the Library a minimum of several thousand dollars.

Annual Reports are generally replete with statistics, and we would be remiss if we didn't share our Fiscal Year 05 figures with you.

Items loaned	439,308
Items loaned to non-residents	112,484
Interlibrary loans provided	46,037
Interlibrary loans received	28,697
Estimated visits	281,000
Registered borrowers	16,342
Research questions answered	6,200
Hours open	2,633
Meetings hosted	361
Library event attendance	7,175
Art shows	27
Displays and exhibits	13
Volunteers	72
Volunteer hours	3,010
Holdings	168,000
Annual acquisitions	14,917

At a reception held recently to acknowledge a benefactor's contributions, HPL's President, Charles Abbott, remarked that, "in addition to the dedication and hard work of the Library's talented staff, the excellent library that we enjoy today has resulted, in great part, from the efforts of the men and women who volunteered their time and contributed financially to the Library since its founding more than 130 years ago. According to Mr. Abbott, the support of the community is especially important at the current time because, while the level of municipal funding for the Library is sufficient to maintain a 'good' library, financial contributions by individuals and organizations are needed to keep it an 'excellent' one." Thus, the Trustees have placed a high priority on the cultivation of increased private funding for the Library, and a number of fund-raising efforts are underway or being planned. The success of these efforts will, of course, depend upon the enthusiasm and generosity of the community but, as noted by Mr. Abbott in an appeal letter for the Library's annual fund drive, "in that regard, we have indeed been blessed."

Several notes of appreciation and recognition are in order. To Joan Newell for her dedicated service as our Volunteer Coordinator; to the Garden Club of Hingham for its time, effort and assistance with landscape maintenance and floral displays in the Library; to the Building Maintenance staff lead by James Bellenis; to our Administrative Assistant Maureen Taylor for keeping us collectively organized; to our staff for their hard work and belief in our mission; to former Trustees Kevin Owens and Jill Setian for their years of service and commitment to

the Library. Welcome to new Trustees David Mehegan and Thomas Carey.

Our underlying theme this year, and for that matter every year, is to learn, adapt and improvise with you as our partner. Our challenge is to move forward with new initiatives but never to leave you behind. And to those of you whose embrace of technology in support of quality service is more sophisticated and mature than our current capabilities, we can assure you we are working at the highest levels that our expertise and monetary resources permit.

In spite of strained financial resources and frequent understaffing, we draw encouragement from the unwavering support we receive daily from you, our patrons and benefactors. Your contributions are celebrated, your kind words welcome, and your very presence in our Library defines our importance to the Town of Hingham. It is our honor to serve you.

Dennis R. Corcoran
Library Director

HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As of October 1, 2005, there were 3695 students enrolled in grades K-12 in the Hingham Public Schools, an increase of 90 students over June 2005. In addition, the district had responsibility for funding and/or programming for 68 pre-school students in the integrated program, 59 out-of-district students (special education), and 7 vocational students.

The School Committee appointed an Ad Hoc Space Needs Committee in January 2005 to review the fall 2004 New England School Development (NESDEC) Enrollment Study and to recommend next steps in quantifying the magnitude of the school space needs problem and developing a plan for addressing the issues of PK-8 enrollment growth and building conditions. A result of that effort was the Town Meeting 2005 warrant article that established a Facility Study Committee and funded the development of a ten-year Master Plan to respond to space limitations at the elementary and middle school levels and the anticipated enrollment growth of approximately 500 additional students.

The 2005 Town Election saw Esther Healey and Christine Smith elected as new members of the School Committee, replacing retiring members Dick Amster and Sara Frederick. Linda Hill was re-elected as Chair of the Committee in May 2005.

The smaller group of teacher retirees in June 2005 and no changes at the administrative level contributed to a smooth start to the 2005-2006 school year. Twenty-three new faculty members were hired over the spring and summer of 2005.

The operating budget for fiscal year 2006 (school year 2005-2006) was approved at \$29,705,851, an increase of 5.33% over the prior year. A capital budget of \$978,000 included \$448,000 for the razing of East School (accomplished in late summer 2005), \$150,000 for technology upgrades and replacements, and \$92,000 for needed furnishings and equipment. New initiatives in the operating budget included the final phase of the elementary reading adoption, the introduction of Spanish at grades 1 and 2, an additional high school counselor, four new interscholastic sports, and special education teachers at the high school and at South School.

Spring 2005 MCAS test results released last fall again indicated that Hingham students continue to perform above state averages across the grade spectrum. All members of the Class of 2005 received a state certified high school diploma and everyone in the Classes of 2006 and 2007 has passed the requisite MCAS tests as well. SAT and AP results

for the Class of 2005 indicated high levels of achievement with the SAT I combined score, at 1160, the same as in 2004 and the highest in history. This is particularly noteworthy considering the exceptionally high (95%) participation rate of Hingham students.

Significant progress has been made towards full implementation of the new elementary reading program. September 2005 saw all grades K-3 classrooms using the new McGraw Hill program with teachers having been trained during the previous summer. Grades 4 and 5 texts have been funded and will be in use in September 2006.

Members of the Elementary Mathematics Committee have been preparing for the anticipated adoption of a new text series. Thirteen teachers at grades 1 and 2 began piloting the *Everyday Mathematics* program in September 2005, and all grades 3-5 classes are using modules from *Investigations in Number, Data, and Space*. Both programs under consideration are National Science Foundation developed. As well, the committee has met with vendors and made site visits to other communities using the programs. Approval of a FY 07 budget request is needed to fund September 2006 implementation at grades K-3.

On June 4, 2005, 227 students graduated from Hingham High School. Academic accomplishments of the HHS Class of 2005 include: two National Merit semifinalists, 4 commended students, 43 Advanced Placement Scholars, 53 members inducted into the National Honor Society, and one National Council of English Teachers Award in Writing winner. Ninety-one percent of the graduates planned to continue their formal education.

At the seventh annual Senior Awards Night, 184 members of the Class of 2005 were honored. Over \$250,000 in local scholarship money was awarded to these graduates. As well as scholarships, myriad awards were also presented in recognition of students' outstanding performance in academic areas or a student's involvement in school organizations.

Hingham High School, with sponsorship by the Hingham-Hull Rotary Club, held its second academic recognition banquet on May 24, 2005. One hundred students (25 from each class) were welcomed into the HHS Century Club with the Rotary Club providing the students with dinner, a speaker and gifts.

In preparation for a fall 2007 accreditation visit by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the high school has adopted a new mission and related expectations for student performance. That

document was ratified by the School Committee in spring 2005. Work on the required two-year self-study process also began in 2005.

The Hingham High School boys hockey team qualified for the Super 8 for the fourth successive year in February 2005. In the spring of 2005, the girls and boys track teams were the undefeated Patriot League champions. The fall 2005 boys soccer team earned the Patriot League championship for the third year in a row and went on to lose in overtime to state champion Stoneham. The girls cross country team was also undefeated in the fall and Patriot League champions who won the MIAA Sportsmanship award.

Enrollment growth at Hingham Middle School has exacerbated the shortage of classroom, small group and office space there. Sixth grade class size grew in September 2005 as 25 additional students were added without an additional teacher.

Middle school activities continue to attract student enthusiasm and interest. Newer offerings include the History Hunters Club, a World of Difference student leadership program pilot, and fractions and homework "club". The Adventure Club, the largest school club, continues to grow and has offered extended trips with activities such as camping, hiking, rafting, and skiing.

The middle school has received a three-year grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to help prevent teenage obesity. The "Jump Up and Go" grant money is being used to educate students about the benefits of healthy eating and physical activity. Funding has provided for teacher training and supervision and instruction for after school student activities such as Hip Hop dancing.

Foster School benefited from a number of building improvements during summer 2005. A partial list of projects includes: replacement of ceiling tiles and new corridor lighting, new floor tiles in ten classrooms, a new elevator, and exterior repainting and updated landscaping. Nevertheless, limitations of large and small group work spaces in this aging building have been exacerbated by the growing enrollment and the increasing need for specialized services and therapies.

Foster's School Council Improvement Plan theme for 05-06 is Healthy Me: Mind and Body. Year long activities have been planned to integrate mathematics, environmental science, and health, nutrition, and fitness. Curriculum related instructional activities, special assemblies, family fun initiatives, and staff fitness plans are examples of how the year long theme will be incorporated into the life of the school.

Both Principal Mary Ann Morrissey and Assistant Principal Albert Kimball announced in fall 2005 that they will retire at the end of the current school year. They will be sorely missed.

Summer 2005 maintenance projects at Plymouth River School included the remodeling of bathrooms, some furniture replacements, the replacement of nine classroom carpets with floor tiles, and a more efficient, air-cooled refrigeration system. Nevertheless, as at Foster, growing enrollments have required the creative use of space for specialized needs and small group instruction. September 2005 saw all existing classroom sized spaces in full use for grade level classrooms and no appropriate, dedicated spaces for art, music, or learning lab activities.

Mathematics incentive programs are a focus at Plymouth River for the 2005-2006 school year. Activities such as Problem of the Day, Weekly Class Challenge, and Math Munchies were designed as opportunities for students to connect math to the real world, to increase exposure to higher level thinking skills, and to enhance student attitudes about mathematics.

The high point of the fall 2005 reading incentive program at Plymouth River School was Principal Cormier's kissing of Daisy the Pig, the anticipation of which was cause enough for students to exceed the goal of students reading for a total of 300,000 minutes of a three-week period.

As at Plymouth River and South, creative utilization of space has been required for the growth in enrollment at South School, which also houses the district-wide integrated pre-school and full day kindergarten programs.

In early 2005, the pre-school playground was relocated and enclosed, and a courtyard garden was created and maintained through PTO donations and efforts. In fall 2005, teachers were able to use the garden for instructional purposes.

South School's first Health and Fitness week was held in June with students and staff pledging to eat healthy and exercise. A Family Fun Race was the culminating activity.

South School's commitment to high academic challenges was implemented through such activities as the scheduling of the Responsive Classroom Morning Meeting for all classes, the allocation of daily time for support for individualized help for struggling readers, the offering of parent programs to encourage reading with children, and incentive

programs for home assistance with student acquisition of mathematics facts.

During 2005, the Hingham Public Schools continued to move forward with the support of parents, community groups, and civic organizations. Progress in realizing the district's stated mission, and the many other goals that are established annually by the administration, was again both visible and measurable in 2005. The School Department and the School Committee appreciate the level of community support that has marked another year of sound educational practice, academic progress, and meaningful programs and activities for the youth of Hingham.

DOROTHY GALO
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Linda Hill, Chair
Chrisanne Gregoire, Vice-Chair
Stephen Nagle, Secretary

Esther Healey
Kristin Parnell
Arthur Shabo
Christine Smith

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING COMMITTEE

The April 2002 Town Meeting established the Public Works Building Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee was authorized to plan, design and construct a Project on the Town owned property known as the School Depot Parcel and the Bare Cove Parcel. The Project involves the development of a new consolidated facility for the DPW and the development of four new athletic fields. At the April 2003 Town Meeting, funding was authorized to allow the Committee to contract with the design engineer, Gale Associates, Inc. for the design of the Project to the point where all applicable permits for the Project could be applied for and received. At the Town Meetings for 2004 and 2005, the Town approved additional funding to allow the design of the Project to proceed and to fund a small portion of the construction. The Committee looks forward to obtaining the final Town permit required for the Project in early 2006. During 2005, the Town received an Order of Conditions for the Project from the Conservation Commission, a favorable recommendation for the Project by the Planning Board, and a decision by the Office of Environmental Affairs that no further environmental studies are required by the State. After permits have been obtained and funding is in place, the design and construction of the Project will commence.

Robert P. Garrity, Chairman
John Bailey
Edward Colbert
William Martin
Brian Mc Sweeney
Karl Willner

HINGHAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

*I*t is with distinct pleasure that the report of the Recreation Department is submitted to the residents of Hingham for the year 2005.

The Recreation Department FY05 budget of \$143,968 covered a relatively small portion of our overall departmental costs. The Recreation Department returned \$54,151 in fees back to the general fund. The primary operation of the Department falls under the use of our Revolving Account Fund for 100% self-supporting programs reflecting no direct costs to taxpayers. During Fiscal year 2005, we generated \$459,209 in the conduct of all programs including the Fitness Room and Summer Programs. Via this financial methodology, program participants subsidize 100% of the costs of the program operations, while further offsetting budget costs to all taxpayers. Naturally, we are pleased with our low financial impact upon the taxpayers and high yield of services ratio.

The department oversees a full-service multi-generational recreational facility at Town Hall. With literally hundreds of residents of all ages using the Rec. Center on a daily basis, it has matured into an integral part of the Hingham community. Open seven days a week from 6:30 AM until 10:00 PM the Rec. Center facility offers activities of all types and interests. In addition to the Hingham Striders Fitness Room, the center offers programs for children and adults including: Aerobics, Yoga, Dog Training, CPR, Spinning, Summer Programs, Ski Trips, Sports Programs and Middle School Dances.

The Hingham Striders Fitness Room is available for residents over eighteen years of age for a minimal fee and has been utilized by over 3,000 residents in its short time. The fees cover the cost of staffing, equipment purchase, maintenance and cleaning. The Striders Fitness Room contains a full complement of weight training and cardiovascular equipment and offers residents a relaxed, low-key atmosphere in which to train. Babysitting is available for Fitness members every weekday from 9:00 AM to Noon.

Summer programs continue to be in great demand. A lottery system was introduced years ago and has been fine-tuned each year so that as many families as possible are accommodated. Children enjoy a structured daily program of activities that include field trips, dramatics, arts and crafts, outdoor play and sports.

Youngsters have the opportunity to take advantage of the "Open Rec" hours seven days a week from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. This time is

reserved for free play in the Game Room and Gymnasium. The Game Room includes ping-pong, bumper pool, video games, pinball machines and pizza parlor tables for hanging out and socializing with friends.

This year the Recreation Department and Department of Public Works supervised the infield reconstruction and fence replacement project at Hersey Field. Furthermore, thanks to the generosity of Hingham Little League and local businesses the dugouts were also replaced with a new open-air design. This year, renovations were completed at the East Street Skating Pond including a new heating system, new wiring and lighting, fencing and a new handicap accessible door.

2005 was a sad year for the Department for we lost one of Hingham's prominent advocates for recreation and sport, Donna M. Powers, who served on the Recreation Commission since 1996. Donna was a town leader for female athletics for decades, from women's softball to Hingham GALS and will be sorely missed.

In recognition of her many contributions to the town of Hingham, her friends and family, along with the Hingham Recreation Department, asked for the women's softball field at Center Field be named in her honor. In July, the Board of Selectmen voted to rename the field Donna M. Powers Park as a tribute to her accomplishments. Through contributions from Citizens Bank, Hingham Sports Partnership, Hingham GALS, Hingham Women's Softball, South Shore Baseball Club, and the Friends of Hingham Recreation new benches and a memorial plaque and stone were installed at the field. These donations also funded new benches and a flagpole for Kress Field. Her name and her memory will live on in that field for years to come.

After 24 years of service to the Town of Hingham, Jill Drohan retired from her position as Recreation Director. Jill began her career as a Recreation Commissioner in 1982 and in 1984 was hired as Hingham's second Recreation Director. During Jill's tenure as Recreation Director the department grew from a small part-time office in the Hersey House to the full time multi-functional facility it is today – one of the most respected and successful recreation departments in Massachusetts. She brought an affordable fitness center to the Town of Hingham and a fun (and safe) place for teens to hang out with friends.

Through Jill's work with the Hingham Striders, the 4th of July Road Race has become one of the town's finest traditions. Each year over 1500 runners participate in the run down historic Main Street. It is with these proceeds beginning with the Hingham Striders and then the Friends of Hingham Recreation that the Town of Hingham has benefited most: the

Hingham Striders Fitness Room, the Hingham Recreation Center and countless field and athletic projects have been completed due to their generosity. Generations of families have been and will be affected by her dedication, compassion and creativity she invested in the Hingham Recreation Department.

We would like to thank Commissioner Beth Marcella for her many years of service to the Recreation Commission.

The Recreation Department wishes to acknowledge gratitude to the many individuals, school and sports groups, civic and business organizations, town boards, committees and departments who have lent their support and assistance in our efforts to best serve the recreational needs of residents of all ages. While too numerous to mention none are forgotten and all are sincerely appreciated.

Ted Carroll, Acting Director

Commissioners

Tom Campbell, Chairman

Kristin Parnell

Robert Keyes

Mitchell Powers

Cheryl Alexander Bierwirth

SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee is charged to invest the assets of Hingham's scholarship fund. Scholarship fund assets for the year ending 2005 totaled \$3,088,733.77 compared to \$3,019,849.74 at yearend 2004, an overall increase of 2.3%. During 2005 markets were slightly positive: The Standard and Poor's 500 index was up 4.8% for the year (versus 10.9% last year), The Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond index was up 2.4%, and three month U.S. Treasury Bills returned 3.1%.

Income from the fund provided scholarships to 163 students who graduated from Hingham High School in June 2005, totaling \$135,600 (In 2004, 148 students received awards totaling \$131,000). The Town of Hingham authorized this program in 1975 and in the intervening years a total of over \$1.4 million has been awarded to college bound Hingham High School students.

At the beginning of 2005, the fund was structured with about 76% of its assets in equity securities and about 24% in bonds and money market instruments. The fund's current asset mix has shifted slightly: 73% equity / 27% bonds and money market. The committee feels that a large proportional exposure to stocks is justified given the perpetual nature of the fund.

In late 2005, the Committee, led by Jim MacAllen, formulated and instituted an Investment Policy Statement for The Scholarship Fund. The Investment Policy Statement sets forth guidelines defining the Fund's investment objectives, asset allocation and investment strategies, and annual draw targets. We believe that formal guidelines will be helpful as new appointees transition onto the committee in the years to come.

The fund received new contributions from citizens and friends of the Town of Hingham during the year of \$12,416. The Committee welcomes continued contributions to the fund in whatever amounts, however, a minimum of \$2,500 is needed to establish a separately named scholarship. For contributions less than the minimum the Hingham Scholarship Memorial Fund has been established.

The members of the committee volunteer their time and are listed below. It must be noted that the committee could not properly function without the efforts of the professional employees of the Town of Hingham; including Jean Montgomery, Treasurer-Collector; Lori-Ann Manger, Assistant Treasurer-Collector; and their co-workers in the Treasurer's office.

Heidi Ford, Chairman
Jean Montgomery, Treasurer
Scott D. Peterson, Clerk
Kenneth M. Buntrock
Francis Gaul
Frederick J. Hussey
James MacAllen
Patricia Tomecek
Lisa Virello

SCHOOL FACILITY STUDY COMMITTEE

The School Facility Study Committee was established in accordance with Article 22 of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting to develop a ten year school facility plan that addresses current and anticipated school space needs. The need for this study was driven by three factors:

- Current overcrowding at the elementary and middle schools resulting from an overall enrollment increase of 363 students over the last five years and a lowering of the student/teacher ratio of the same time period.
- Anticipated further overcrowding over the next ten years according to an enrollment and demographic study completed by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC) in January 2005.
- Needed capital improvements to Hingham Middle School, Plymouth River School and Foster School.

The seven members of the study committee were appointed by the Selectmen, School Committee and Town Moderator in June. Members were given background information on the school facility issue including the 1996 ten year school master plan; a 2002 engineering assessment of HMS, PRS and Foster School; the 2005 demographic and enrollment study; and the April 2005 report of the Ad Hoc School Space Needs Task Force. This later report included a citizens' analysis of the NESDEC demographic study, a review of the current use of space at each of the schools, a preliminary investigation of possible short term solutions to the growing school space problem and information about the new Massachusetts School Building Authority created in 2004 to oversee the Commonwealth's school building assistance grant program. Members of the School Facility Study Committee had the opportunity to visit the five school buildings in June.

The Committee's first order of business was to hire a school planner to provide professional guidance. The Committee developed a request for qualifications package, received seventeen proposals in response to a public advertisement for services and selected six firms for interview. Following reference checks and site visits, the Committee recommended Architecture Involution, LLC, (Ai3) a school planning and architectural firm located in Wayland, Massachusetts, for appointment by the School Committee. The School Committee awarded a contract to Ai3 in September 2005.

During the fall, as Ai3 and its team of planners and engineers became familiar with the school system and its facilities, the Committee conducted a series of public forums for interested parents and members of the community. The purpose of the fall forums was to inform the public of the need for the study and to gather community sentiment about priorities and values that should be considered as various solutions to the school space problem were developed.

From Ai3's evaluation of the school buildings, the Committee learned that the current elementary and middle school enrollment exceed recommended capacity by 299 students. Based on the current school enrollment, the pre-school age population already residing in Hingham and the NESDEC enrollment projections, this shortfall is expected to increase to more than 700 students over the next eight years.

The Committee developed criteria to evaluate possible solutions to the school space problem and analyzed ten different school master plan options. In its report to the School Committee this past January, the Study Committee concluded that there was one preferred option that would address overcrowding at both the elementary and middle school levels in an expeditious and economical manner:

- Construct a new PK-5 elementary school on the former East School site to relieve current and anticipated overcrowding at this level;

[At the School Committee's discretion, the new school could initially serve as either:

- (1) townwide 5th and 6th grade school, or
- (2) townwide grade 6 school with a smaller K-to-enrollment

An interim use such as this would not only relieve the overcrowding problem at all buildings sooner, it would also facilitate the planned building improvements at Hingham Middle School, Plymouth River School and Foster Schools.]

- Renovate and expand the existing 6 – 8 middle school to relieve current and anticipated overcrowding at this level;
- Renovate and expand specialized instruction areas at Plymouth River and Foster and make other improvements to both schools.

Copies of the School Facility Study Committee's 10 Year Master Plan Report are available at the Superintendent of Schools Office and at the Town library.

On February 6, 2006, the School Committee voted to adopt this plan. The Study Committee and the School Committee conducted a series of public information forums in March and April to explain the plan to the community and to answer questions.

The Facility Study Committee supports the School Committee's article to appropriate \$ 1.7 million for the development of detailed architectural and engineering plans for the proposed new elementary school and schematic design development for the expansion and renovation of the Hingham Middle School and for improvements to Foster School and Plymouth River School.

Jack Slater, Chair
Peter Bradley
Amy Happ
Alan Macdonald
Clem McCarey
Kathleen Peters
Patricia Wanty

**SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB
LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

With an eye to planning the future of the South Shore Country Club, the Selectmen appointed a seven-member Long Range Planning Committee to evaluate the current use of the facility and to propose the best use of the South Shore Country Club for the upcoming years. Chairman David Ramsdell and members Kate Mahony, Tom Campbell, Mary O'Connell, Bernard O'Neil, Jim Welch and Kevin Taylor are well underway toward those goals.

As of February 2006, the committee is evaluating the current and potential future direction of the South Shore Country Club including a review of demand for and effective delivery of its existing offerings including golf, bowling, swimming, tennis and food service. The committee has and will continue to solicit suggestions from town residents as to potential future uses. To date, numerous suggestions have come forth including the addition of a fitness facility, modification of current food service offerings, modification of the tennis program, and creating a year round swimming option. In its long term planning effort, the Committee anticipates that it will review the management, facilities, economic, and social implications of any recommendations forthcoming.

Country Club Long Range Planning Committee

David Ramsdell, Chairman
Tom Campbell
Kate Mahony
Mary O'Donnell
Bernard O'Neil
Kevin Taylor
James Welch

VETERANS SERVICES

2005 saw an increase of more than 30% in the number of veterans and their dependents served by the Veterans' Services Department. Assistance was rendered to veterans and their dependents in the areas of medical, economical, housing, educational, employment, substance abuse and veterans' burials. Maximum effort was placed on obtaining medical and other military records for the purposes of filing or supporting Veterans' Administration claims.

The Veterans' Services Department worked throughout the year to identify and support the families of military personnel from Hingham who were deployed during the year. A first of its kind fishing trip for wounded active duty soldiers was conducted at Hingham Harbor in August. Twenty-two wounded or injured soldiers from the CBHC Medical Hold unit at Hanscom Air Force Base were able to participate. Many Hingham businesses and citizens as well as the harbormaster contributed to this successful trip. Hopefully this can become an annual event.

A monthly "Veterans' Advocate" column was introduced in the Hingham Journal. The column deals with issues of importance to veterans and their families.

I would like to thank Town Administrator Charles Cristello and the Board of Selectmen for their unwavering support of Hingham's veterans in 2005.

Michael Cunningham, Director

WASTEWATER MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Wastewater Master Planning Committee is charged with developing a strategic plan for the long-term management of wastewater generated in Hingham. This plan will cover a broad scope of issues which are intimately linked to human habitation including septic system upgrade best practices, aquifer recharge through stormwater and interbasin water balance management, public sewer expansion possibilities, and environmental protection.

Last year, the Committee ironed out the important areas that this comprehensive study should encompass. Our environmental and engineering consultants have since been researching the facts and will soon provide us with their preliminary findings. Starting this spring, we will hold public workshops so that our community is kept informed on the project and have the opportunity to add your own thoughts and concerns to the process. Because the Committee is largely comprised of members from the Boards of Selectmen, Planning, Health, Conservation, Sewer, and Water-Supply, the perspectives that will be drawn into this study will include a wide-ranging spectrum of land use and future development issues. The first phase of this study will culminate in a State review through a public filing with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office.

Phase two of the wastewater study will involve developing cost-effective and environmentally conscientious alternatives designed to solve the varied and unique physical problems that the above-mentioned preliminary study is bound to uncover. It could be late next year before this second phase approaches completion. In the end, the Town of Hingham will have a comprehensive and thoughtful wastewater plan that will steer us into the future. Coupled with our "smart growth" initiatives, the town will be able to meet the needs of our inhabitants in a manner that preserves those things that make Hingham such a special place to live.

Mathew MacIver, Chairman
Eugene Babin
John Brandt
Iris Daigle
Richard Hull
Francis Mahony, Jr.
John Riley
Kirk Shilts
Mark White

WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE

The Water Supply Committee (WSC) is an oversight committee charged with maintaining a Water Supply Policy for the Town of Hingham, and monitoring adherence to this policy among the various water-supply-related entities. The WSC is working on a number of concerns relative to long-term planning to best ensure that we have an ample water supply for our inhabitants and businesses, in a manner that is economically prudent and environmentally sustainable.

Additional Supply Sources Update:

The State currently limits our water district (Hingham, Hull and a part of Cohasset) to the same level of consumption as averaged from 1981-1986, some 20-years ago. To obtain more water our water-utility, Aquarion Water Co., (Aquarion) must show that there is a need and that existing water supplies are being used efficiently. It shouldn't be overlooked that although Aquarion is our current service provider, the Town is nevertheless ultimately responsible for our ever-increasing demand for more water.

Starting last November, and for the first time ever, our water supply has been supplemented by water that originates from outside of our own watershed. A supply of Cohasset municipal water is being mixed with Aquarion's every night and then distributed through our system. Cohasset has placed significant investment on improving their water quality. During comparative taste testing done last fall, the Hingham/Cohasset mix was preferred over either 100% Hingham or Cohasset water. The prospect of additional water imports over-and-above the contracted Linden Pond purchases are a promising possibility.

For three years, the WSC has been closely monitoring the proposal by Aquarion to permit Free St. Well #4 as a new source supply. Aquarion is revising their proposal to address questions raised by the State concerning demand (population projections) and efficient use. Many of the State's comments centered on the need for a coordinated supplier-town approach. The WSC had already begun this coordinated planning process. For example, we requested that the Hingham Wastewater Management Planning Committee expand their membership panel to include a member from the WSC. As a result, we included a modest degree of water-supply-related topics within the wastewater study. This simple step will greatly enhance the balance between our town's long-term wastewater plan (water discharge) and long-term water supply (water recharge) planning.

We expect that additional planning and implementation measures by the Town may be needed to meet certain permitting conditions that the Commonwealth now imposes on all communities that have a serious need for additional water. The WSC is poised to make specific recommendations to the Selectmen and other town Boards if or when they become necessary.

Efficient use of our Existing Supply:

In 1999, the State and Aquarion agreed through a consent order to institute a Water Balance Program, which required that planned developments that significantly increase demand within our water district, must offset their projected water needs with an equal degree of water savings. Over the past few years, leaks and unaccounted for water have been reduced from some 23% to about 15%. This program of water conservation and recovery will soon be expanded to include construction of new homes as even more demands are placed on our system. The WSC is monitoring both phases of the water balance program from initial application to final completion when developers should have fulfilled their water savings obligation. This oversight assists our various town-governing Boards that grant the necessary permits who asked for greater accountability in determining ample supply.

This past July 2005, the State re-classified the Weir River as a high-stressed basin. As a result, the State will require that our unaccounted for water is reduced over a reasonable time to 10%, and that limits be placed on certain types of summertime consumption. This new standard will require further water conservation measures including possible town by-laws. The WSC will be looking at this and other initiatives to ensure that our town's Water Supply Policy is best fulfilled.

Gregory J. May
Smuel S. Mullin
Carolyn J. Nielsen
William C. Schrader
Kirk J. Shilts
Robert W. Stuart
Roger W. Sullivan

WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE

*T*he Weir River Estuary is one of Boston Harbor's most valuable natural resources and was designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1986. Hingham, Hull, and Cohasset share the Weir River Estuary and the ACEC, which includes 900 acres of water, fresh and saltwater wetlands, and uplands and borders World's End.

The Weir River Estuary Park Committee (WREP) accomplishments for 2005 include:

1. WREP Committee Organizational Guidelines were submitted to the Boards of Selectmen in each community.
2. The *Weir River Estuary Land Protection Plan* was edited to include updated map information with additional lands for consideration to be protected, if/when they become available. An Executive Summary and natural resource access policy were developed for inclusion. Current projects to protect and restore the quality of land and aquatic habitat for wildlife, recreational, and educational use were added as an appendix, e.g.:
 - A pedestrian and bike path designed to utilize and add to the current sidewalk system for viewing the estuary. The plan has been accepted by each community.
 - A request for a Rockland Street Project, including a comprehensive storm drainage system design, sidewalk and crosswalk additions, and kayak/canoe access under the bridge, has been approved by the Hingham Selectmen, Traffic Safety Committee, and Department of Public Works. The project has been presented to the Mass Highway Department, Coastal Zone Management, and elected State Representatives and Senators. The first phase of the proposed project is to be coordinated with the reconstruction of the Rockland Street Bridge State Project; a grant application for needed funding will be submitted by the Town in 2006.
3. The Estuary Center, located in Hull across the George Washington Boulevard Bridge and adjacent to the Weir River Estuary, has a new foot trail completed for public use. It was designed and completed as a Boy Scout Eagle project. The trail dedication will be in the spring of 2006.
4. Other projects that the WREP committee assisted as estuary stewards in 2005 were: a) the Strait's Pond Watershed Association's West Corner bridge project, b) Weir River

Watershed Association's (WRWA) Estuary Center building's "green" redesign, fundraising, and construction project, c) the Hingham Land Trust and the WRWA / WREP sponsored educational walk at the Foundry Pond dam and around the Pond to highlight the need to restore the fish run in the estuary and Weir River Watershed Association's work with the MBTA to retain a walking trail throughout the Hingham Conservation land surrounding the fresh water pond, d) the Straits Pond Watershed Association and Weir River Watershed Association's annual spring Clean Up Day around the Estuary, e) the creation of a Sustainable Transportation Committee to reduce CO2 emissions to support stabilization of sea level rise, and f) support for environmental review of the Hull Wind 2 project.

The updated Weir River Estuary Land Protection Plan will be presented in 2006 to the tri-town Boards of Selectmen and boards and committees with responsibilities for protecting the estuary to receive their input and approval. Thereafter, the document will be added to the Weir River Watershed Association's web-site at <http://www.weirriver.org> and will be recommended to be placed under the WREP committee site on the Town web pages, <http://www.hingham-ma.com>. The 2004 draft Weir River Estuary Land Protection Plan may be accessed on the Urban Harbors website, <http://www.uhi.umb.edu/publications.htm>.

The Weir River Estuary Park committee has up to three representatives per community appointed by each of the Hingham, Hull, and Cohasset Boards of Selectmen, plus representatives from other groups, such as neighborhood associations and environmental groups. The committee works with local, state, and national government agencies, and non-profit organizations. The goals are to protect and restore the health of the estuary, link the land, water, and habitat resources to preserve wildlife and healthy water quality, as well provide recreation and learning environmental stewardship opportunities. Monthly meetings, usually the first Wednesday of the month on a tri-Town Hall rotation schedule, are open to residents and are posted on the Hingham web-site, <http://www.Hingham-ma.com>.

The committee wishes to thank all the state and local officials, committees, and citizen volunteers for all their hard work in making this year a successful one.

Faith L. Burbank, Co-Chairperson, Hingham
Darrell Baker, Hingham alternate
Judeth Van Hamm, Co-Chairperson, Hull
Richard Avery, Co-Chairperson, Cohasset

FINANCE DIRECTOR/TOWN ACCOUNTANT

To the Citizens of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts:

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 for the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts is hereby submitted for your consideration in the new format prescribed under Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements 34, 37 and 38.

The report is the primary means of reporting the Town's financial activities. The objective of this new model is to provide a clearer picture of our government as a single, unified entity, while retaining certain traditional financial information previously provided.

This document presents the Town's financial information on three bases of accounting, each serving a different purpose. The last section of the book includes as "required supplementary information" budgetary basis schedules, which are prepared in accordance with the Town's budgetary process.

The fund perspective statements present the governmental operation on the same basis (modified accrual basis of accounting) as previous CAFR's with one exception. The account groups for long-term debt and fixed assets have been deleted. In addition, there is a perspective difference in that certain funds that are shown as fiduciary under this perspective are not portrayed under GASB 34, or are reclassified. This basis is designed to measure inter-period equity, the extent to which current resources (available within the next year) fully fund all current services provided by the government. Long-term liabilities are excluded with the implicit assumption that future tax revenues will fund them.

In addition to this "fund perspective," the new CAFR presents an "entity wide" perspective. This perspective combines all governmental and business activities in a statement of net assets and a statement of activities, presenting all functions on a full accrual basis of accounting. All fixed assets, with the exception of road and bridge infrastructure, are added to the statements, as are long-term liabilities such as outstanding debt. The Town is presently undertaking the task of capitalizing road and bridge infrastructure. The balance sheet has been reorganized into a "net assets format." This format classifies assets and liabilities as short and long-term and then subtracts those liabilities from net assets to arrive at net assets similar to a private company.

The Town's statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances has been completely reorganized to a new statement of activities. The expenses of the town, organized by activity, are netted against fees, fines, grant revenues and assessments generated to fund each activity in an attempt derive the net cost to the taxpayer of each activity. The reader of the financial statements can now discern the net cost of a particular function of government funded by taxation and other general revenues by a review of this statement.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Hingham for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. This was the ninth consecutive year that the government has achieved this prestigious award.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement program's requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

The report is designed to be used by the elected and appointed officials of the Town and others who are concerned with its management and progress such as bond analysts, banking institutions and credit raters as well as residents and taxpayers of Hingham.

This CAFR is presented in three sections: **Introductory, Financial and Statistical**. This **Introductory Section** contains this transmittal letter with economic conditions and outlook, major initiatives, financial information and other relevant information. The **Financial Section** contains a Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section. Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) require that management provide a narrative introduction, overview and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of an MD&A. This letter of transmittal is designed to compliment the MD&A where the financial analysis is now presented. The Town's MD&A can be found immediately following the independent auditor's report from O'Connor & Drew, PC. The Town of Hingham is responsible for the accuracy of the financial statements as well as their completeness and fairness. We believe the statements are accurate in all material aspects and that they

fairly set forth the financial position of the Town. The **Statistical Section** contains, in most cases, a ten-year history of trends of both financial and demographic data.

PROFILE OF THE TOWN OF HINGHAM

This CAFR includes all of the operational departments of the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority is not included in the reporting entity because they do not meet criteria for inclusion. The Hingham Public Library, the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant and the Hingham Contributory Retirement System are included in this report as component units, with the first two being discrete units, and the latter being a blended unit, included within the statement of fiduciary net assets.

The Town of Hingham is a seacoast community located approximately 20 miles southeast of downtown Boston. Primarily an established single family community, Hingham has several historic village districts and more recent single family subdivisions that were constructed within the last 40 years.

The Town provides general government services including police and fire protection, disposal of rubbish, public education, streets, recreation and a municipal golf course (The South Shore Country Club). The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) provides certain sewer services to the Town. A municipal sewer system serves approximately 25% of the households of the Town. The Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, a self-supporting enterprise, provides electric power to the Town, while the Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts, a private firm, provides water services to the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority maintains housing for elderly and handicapped residents. In addition, the Town has a Department of Elder Services to service senior citizens with various programs as well as outreach projects. Bus services are provided by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and connect to established stations of the Authority.

Several recreational programs are provided among the parks located throughout the Town, in addition to significant beach and swimming facilities. Bare Cove Park contains 468 acres and was a former federal ammunition depot. It is mostly in its original pristine condition with many trees and forests and is adjacent to the scenic Back River. It provides walking and bicycle trails, nature studies, picnic facilities and other items of interest.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts maintains Wompatuck State Park in the Towns of Hingham and Cohasset containing 3,509 acres, of which 2,047 acres are in Hingham. In addition to the facilities provided by Bare

Cove Park, it offers hiking trails in the summer which become cross country skiing trails in the winter, and extensive camping facilities are provided.

The principal services provided by the County are court facilities, a jail and house of correction and registry of deeds and probate.

The three member elected Board of Selectmen is the administrative authority; however, the Town has a diverse government with many elected and autonomous boards and committees. A Town Administrator is appointed by the Selectmen and is responsible for day to day administration.

ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK

Unemployment rates in Massachusetts, which have been in decline for much of the past decade, have risen during the last year. However, the Town traditionally and currently has lower rates than the state or the nation.

The Town's population has modestly increased in the nineties, after having declined through most of the late eighties. There is a parallel impact in school enrollment, which declined through the late eighties and then increased 11% during the nineties.

State budget problems abated slightly during fiscal year 2005, and the state modestly increased aid to cities and towns during the fiscal year 2005.

MAJOR INITIATIVES

Since the mid 1990's the Town has consistently made capital expenditures a high priority, and to that end the Capital Outlay Committee recommended a total of \$6,411,334 for capital improvements for Fiscal 2006. The largest capital items included a renovation and expansion of the Central Fire Station and a consolidation of the Public Works functions in to a centralized facility.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Financial Management. The Advisory Committee, Board of Selectmen and School Committee has adopted a Financial Policy. It is a comprehensive statement covering financial management, capital expenditures and debt service. The purpose of the Policy is to stabilize tax rates and control expenditures. It is expected to give guidance to the preparation, review and approval of budgets.

The Policy recommends that Available Reserves (Undesignated Fund

Balance) be maintained at about 5% of annual appropriations. Each year that Available Reserves increase, any excess of the 5% level should be available for spending or tax reductions.

Budgetary Controls. The Town Administrator is responsible for the preparation of the executive budget and initiates the process with the development of a five-year financial forecast and budget guidelines for the coming fiscal year. The various boards prepare the budgets for departments under their jurisdiction. The Town Administrator reviews all budgets and recommendations are submitted to the Board of Selectmen. The 15 member Advisory Committee reviews the budgets approved by the Board of Selectmen, attempts to resolve any differences and then prepares the annual budget recommendations to the Town Meeting, which is the body that has final approval authority. Once approved, the budgets are controlled at the department level with the Town Accountant approving all payrolls and invoices. The Advisory Committee, based on a recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, may approve subsequent transfers from a reserve fund.

The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for all of the Town's cash and investments, debt management and payment of invoices. The Assessors set the tax rate and commit the Real Estate taxes, Personal Property taxes and Motor Vehicle Excise taxes to the Treasurer/Collector for collection. About 97% of all Real Estate taxes are collected during the fiscal year of billing with the remaining 3% collected the following year. This efficiency greatly aids the Treasurer/Collector in not only reducing or avoiding temporary loans but also maximizing investment potential.

The Treasurer/Collector, in common with other towns as a result of permissive legislation, changed from a semi-annual billing system to a quarterly billing system in Fiscal Year 1992. This change has not only eliminated the need for temporary borrowings, which were costing the Town \$150,000 per year, but also provided temporary excess cash beyond immediate needs which is available for short-term investment.

In addition to approval authority over all disbursements, the Finance Director/Town Accountant is responsible for providing accurate and timely estimates of the Town's current and future financial position to the Town Administrator.

The Town Accountant, whom also serves as the Director of Finance, holds quarterly meetings with the Town's financial officers to establish goals and objectives and to review monthly reports of comparison of budgeted revenues and expenditures with actual.

OTHER INFORMATION

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. In order to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit (state, county, district, town or town) must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Comprehensive Annual Financial Report whose contents conform to program standards established by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). Such reports must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and applicable legal requirements. We will be submitting the fiscal 2005 report to GFOA for review in anticipation of receiving the certificate.

Independent Audit. The financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 were audited by the public accounting firm of O'Connor & Drew, P.C. The financial statements have received an "unqualified opinion" from the auditors. An "unqualified opinion" is the best opinion which a governmental unit can receive. It indicates that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that they are fairly presented in all material aspects.

Additionally, the Town is required to have a single audit, under the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984, of all Federal programs, as prescribed in the Federal office of Management & Budget's Circular A133.

Acknowledgments. A special gratitude is owed to Dave A. Dilulis, and Kevin Carnes, Partners, at O'Connor & Drew, P.C., whose attention to the fiscal year 2005 financial statements was invaluable.

I also want to express my appreciation to the accounting personnel, Sue Nickerson, Steve Becker, Nancy Skillings, and Jan Jacobson for their assistance with the preparation of this CAFR, and to Betty Tower of the Selectmen's Office for her work on the cover design. I wish to acknowledge their efforts, and the efforts of all the town departments that assisted in the production of the final report.

Additional Information. Hardcopies of the CAFR are available in the Town Accountant's Office, or online in PDF form at: http://www.hingham-ma.gov/accountant/documents/Town_of_Hingham_CAFR_2005%20.pdf.

Ted C. Alexiades, CPFO
Finance Director/Town Accountant

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Each year as we submit this report to you we can only praise our staff for their continued ability to handle the ever-changing assessing procedures and reports with the aim of improving assessing properties fairly. The incredible amount of new growth in the next five to ten years will greatly impact our office's resources. We are currently taking steps to limit the impact with new software and computer components. The Geographical Information System is now operational and has been installed in all departments throughout the Town.

Lane Partridge and his staff, consisting of assistant assessor Kathleen Collins, Susan Walker, Sandra Alger and Jean White, have successfully passed the rigorous Department of Revenue revaluation of real estate values and personal property values. All this was made possible by the great job done by Bob Abbott performing over 800 inspections and accumulating changes in properties. This process is done in-house at substantial savings to the town.

Today all assessment data is available to all residents, real estate brokers, appraisers and bankers. With all this information "on the Web" Susan, Jean and Sandra have more time to concentrate on their specific tasks.

As mentioned above, the next few years will be a time of rapid growth in the town, and keeping up with tracking and estimating values will be difficult. We are referring to the Black Rock Residential Development, The Linden Ponds Elder Living Facility, and Shipyard reuse. We have asked for funding to hire experts knowledgeable in these areas. All this helps assure that your town has one of the best assessing offices out of the 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

We added over \$1,000,00 in tax dollars for new growth, allowing us to effect a slight decrease in the tax rate in spite of an increased town budget. We can look forward to a few more years of this new growth with the expansion of the projects mentioned above.

We are proud of our staff, and thank them very much for their efforts to keep our taxpayers happy.

Stuart Gregory Hall, Chairman
Robert Kurtz
Mark Tyburski

HINGHAM CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD

Fiscal 2005 annual report contains the financial statements as well as a membership statistics report, a list of new members and a list of members that retired in 2005.

The retirement system was independently audited for the year ended December 31, 2004. The last actuarial review study was performed January 1, 2004. An actuarial review study is currently being conducted for January 1, 2006.

Ted C. Alexiades, Chairman and Ex-Officio Member
Eileen A. McCracken, Elected Member
Jean M. Montgomery, Elected Member
Thomas P. Hall, Appointed Member
Peter J. Blampied, Appointed Member
Nancy M. Hutt, Administrative Assistant to the Board

Contributory Retirement System Trial Balance as of December 31, 2005 (Pre-Close)

ASSETS

Cash - Citizens Bank	\$	384,455.94
Checking – Citizens Bank	\$	0
Investments - PRIT CAPITAL	\$	61,040,403.13
Accounts Receivable	\$	1,293,532.34
Sub Total	\$	62,718,391.41

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$	-7,192.93
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FUND BALANCES

Annuity Savings Fund	\$	-12,388,693.92
Annuity Reserve Fund	\$	-5,741,619.56
Military Service Fund	\$	-9,718.31
Pension Fund	\$	0
Pension Reserve Fund	\$	-37,927,619.18
Sub Total	\$	-56,067,650.97

REVENUES

Investment Income	\$	-1,859,345.14
Interest Not Refunded	\$	-1,156.39

Miscellaneous Income	\$	0
Realized Gains	\$	-3,503,058.67
Realized Loss	\$	0
Unrealized Gains	\$	-5,867,457.35
Unrealized Loss	\$	4,280,063.62
Contrib. received for Military Service	\$	0
Members Deductions	\$	-1,561,924.29
Transfers from Other Systems	\$	-41,664.42
Members Make Up & Re-deposits	\$	-92,896.78
Pension Fund Appropriation	\$	-2,848,387.00
Federal Grant Reimbursement	\$	-31,775.00
3(8) (c) Reimb. From Other Systems	\$	-139,283.54
Received from Commonwealth COLA	\$	-164,520.47
Member Payments from Rollovers	\$	-168,370.12
Sub Total	\$	-10,999,775.55

DISBURSEMENTS

Staff Salaries	\$	44,331.72
Consultant Fees	\$	0
Management Fees	\$	313,261.37
Legal Expenses	\$	9,992.70
Medical Expenses	\$	0
Fiduciary Insurance	\$	3,490.32
Service Contracts	\$	3,011.23
Administrative Expenses	\$	31,611.41
Furniture and Equipment	\$	0
Travel	\$	866.26
Annuities Paid	\$	638,921.77
Pensions Paid	\$	3,915,650.13
COLA's Paid	\$	160,386.89
3(8) (c) Reimb. To Other Systems	\$	113,440.66
Transfers to Other Systems	\$	49,703.81
Refunds to Members	\$	71,559.77
Option B Refunds	\$	0.00
Sub Total	\$	5,356,228.04

New Members 2005

Barrett, Cynthia A.
 Bizzozero, Michael R.
 Brundige, Stephanie B.
 Canepa, Gay C.

Benger, Elizabeth A.
 Bradbury, Jessica M.
 Burke, Meghan A.
 Clay, Karen L.

Connelly, Richard
 Cosmopolos, Thea Y.
 Dallas, Angela M.
 Dyer, Catherine T.
 Fucile, Gina M.
 Giese, Michael J.
 Harvey, Jessie E.
 Jacobson, Jan M.
 Johnson, Teresa L.
 Kallen, Robert B.
 Kelly, Melanie L.
 Kilroy, Jeffrey P.
 Long, Kevin D.
 MacDonald, Marilyn H.
 Magner, Lori-Ann M.
 McSherry, Collette
 Mendes, Heather L.
 Morash Defreitas, Linda M.
 Murphy, Susan E.
 Pirani, Lauaren J.
 Russell, Hillary M.
 Santosuosso, Jane K.
 Steen, Barry C.
 Stockbridge, Robert A.
 Taylor, Kelly A.
 Tracey, Scott A.
 Wentworth, John J.
 Willard, Brian J.

Connolly, Christopher
 Curley, Caitlyn M.
 Driscoll, Amy L.
 Falco, Marcella E.
 Gately, Mark R.
 Hallahan, Lawrence J.
 Hickey, Nancy M.
 Johansson, Jennifer

Keaney, James P.
 Kendrick, Christine L.
 King-Alfieri, Jennifer M.
 Lynch, Maureen E.
 MacKinnon, Courtney L.
 McLaughlin, Kathleen T.
 Melanson, Christopher
 Montanez, Vanessa A.
 Morison, Karen N.
 Nigro, Rosanna N.
 Richardsson, Kate W.
 Rust, Susan R.
 Stearns, Nancy J.
 Steven, Cynthia N.
 Sylvester, Randy A.
 Tierney, Michael P.
 Trinchera, Nicholas J.
 White, Lori P.
 Yeaton, Sarah M.

Retired Members 2005

Andrews, Rodney
 Cerilli, Mark J.
 Grassie, Mary S.
 Lewis, Susan King
 Machado, Virginia M.
 Quinn, John S.
 Travers, Gerard L.

Beck, Ruth A.
 Coffey, Paul Vincent
 Johnson, William Earl
 Lincoln, Donald W.
 McNamara, Frank X.
 Shultz, Mary Jeanette

Deceased Members 2005

Driscoll, Joseph
 Hayward, James
 Mahoney, Leo
 Sparks, William

Faria, Mary
 Lafond, Maurice
 Schubert, Ruth
 Wigman, Joseph G.

Membership Statistic Report 2005

Active Members

Active Membership Dec. 31, previous year	415
Inactive Membership Dec. 31, previous year	78
Enrolled during current year	63
Transfer between groups	0
Reinstatement of disabled members	0
Subtotal	556
Deduct	
Death	1
Withdrawal	18
Retirements	14
Subtotal	33
Active Membership Dec. 31, current year	511
Inactive Membership Dec. 31, current year	78

Retired Members, Beneficiaries and Survivors

Retired Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31, previous year	234
Retirements during the year:	
Superannuation	12
Ordinary Disability	1
Accidental Disability	0
Termination Retirement Allowance	0
Beneficiary of Deceased Retiree	0
Survivor benefits from active membership	1
Subtotal	248
Deduct	
Death of retired member's Termination of Survivor's Benefits	7
Reinstatement of disabled pensions	0
Subtotal	241
Retired Membership Dec. 31, current year	
Superannuation	190
Ordinary Disability	5
Accidental Disability	14

Termination	0
Beneficiaries from accidental deaths	9
Beneficiaries from Section 100	0
Beneficiaries from Section 101	2
Beneficiaries under Option (C)	8
Option (D) Survivor Allowance	11
Section 12B Survivor Allowance	2
Total Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31, current year	241
<u>Total Membership</u>	
Active, Inactive, Retired, Beneficiary And Survivor, Dec. 31, current year	830

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Fiscal year 2005 was a transitional one for the Treasurer Collector's Office as longtime Treasurer Collector Ruth Anne Beck retired from service on April 30th after having first been elected on May 3, 1986. On behalf of our office I wish to thank Ruth for her many years of dedicated service to the Town. She has been a joy to work with and will be greatly missed.

I would also like to thank the Board of Selectmen for appointing me as Treasurer Collector to fill the remaining two years of Ruth's elected term. After serving four and one half years as Assistant Treasurer Collector I feel well prepared for the task and look forward to an exciting and productive tenure.

Taxpayers can now pay tax bills online. Online bill payment provides a convenient way for taxpayers to schedule tax payments, receive email confirmation of payment receipt and to be automatically notified when new bills are available for viewing and payment. Those desiring to pay by charge card can now do so when paying online.

The Town issued Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$3,471,700. The notes will mature on June 21, 2006 with a net interest rate of 2.789%.

Authorized	Amount	Purpose	The Notes
4/22/02	980,000	Rte 3A Force Main	91,500
4/29/03	2,300,000	Sewer Construction	1,680,200
4/26/04	1,700,000	Country Club Irrigation	<u>1,700,000</u>
			\$3,471,700

A sincere thank you goes to my co-workers, Lori-Ann Magner, Nancy Leahy, Jacqueline Berard, Linda Kelley and Regina Ledwick who all perform their jobs with excellence each and every day.

Jean M. Montgomery
Treasurer Collector

WARRANTS FOR COLLECTION
JULY 1, 2004 TO JUNE 30, 2005

2005 Real Estate Tax	43,585,930
2005 Community Preservation Surcharge	546,062
2005 Personal Property Tax	617,299
2005 Boat Excise Tax	97,234
2005 Motor Vehicle Tax	2,714,543
2004 Motor Vehicle Tax	608,071
2003 Motor Vehicle Tax	19,841
Sewer Betterments-Paid in Advance	65,730
Deferred Real Estate Taxes and Betterments	126,174
Sewer Betterments & Committed Interest	132,593
Water Betterments & Committed Interest	1,125
Title 5 Betterments & Committed Interest	4,368
Sewer Use Liens	126,901
Light Liens	15,394
Total	48,661,265

TRUST, GIFT, GRANT AND DEPRECIATION FUNDS IN CUSTODY OF
THE TREASURER - YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2005

400th Anniversary Fund	12,923
Aid to Elderly/Disabled	6,920
Buttonwood Tree	2,395
Charles Langenhagen II Memorial Trust	218
Dr. Margaret Long Memorial Fund	57,759
Education Fund	15,634
Electric Light Depreciation	6,542,706
Electric Light Reserve Stranded Costs	2,227,179
Electric Light - Customer Deposit Fund	830,428
Federal Withholding	14,755
Foundry Pond	5,948
Fourth of July Fund	76,970
Hannah Lincoln Whiting Charity Fund	15,878
Hingham Beautification	1,557
Hingham Historical Commission	43,359
Hingham War Memorial	22,373
MWRA Inflow & Infiltration Grant Loan Program	54,494
Medical Insurance Fund	1,305,560
More-Brewer Fund	79,569
Open Space Conservation Fund	19,929
Stabilization Fund	700,754
USLST Association	1,155
Total	12,038,463

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TRUST FUNDS IN CUSTODY OF THE
TREASURER - YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2005

Scholarship Fund	Balance 6/30/04	6/30/05
Cyrus Bacon & Ada W. Bacon	21,947	22,810
Orvis K. & May B. Collins	46,845	48,705
Amasa J. Whiting	22,612	23,555
Second World War Memorial	56,957	59,362
Margaret McElroy	11,645	12,055
Stuart Macmillan	48,761	51,543
Anne Mulholland	4,459	4,607
John Lewis Russell	13,979	14,531
Caroline Murdock	10,660	11,072
Charles (Chuck) Martell	18,256	18,816
Francis James Thompson	1,897,805	1,961,922
Patricia Lynne Schneider	4,096	4,238
Harold L. Downing	16,977	17,649
Hingham Theater for Children	4,513	4,759
Curtis Chase	10,391	10,776
Wallis Lee Chipman	6,387	6,633
Russell H. Arkell	8,471	8,770
Hingham Basketball Boosters	11,150	11,620
Charles Berry	4,833	5,803
Edward O. Hornstra	15,048	15,552
William J. Laubenstein Jr.	4,549	4,707
Mary Sheldon	5,745	6,227
Robin Karen Kurciviez	4,622	4,795
Mary J. Fee	4,410	4,558
Jacobs	27,631	28,546
Burditt W. Collins Memorial	6,534	6,680
Savini Music	5,246	5,433
Stuart Blake & Mary McKay Luce	171,961	180,390
Robert V. Barbuto & James C. Silipo	16,681	16,496
Herbert W. Farrar Memorial	4,850	5,067
Lane W. & Agnes Bryant	104,238	108,592
Hingham Band Parents	5,176	5,368
Hingham Taxpayers	45,867	47,755
Susan Burton	18,518	19,118
John Barba	18,016	18,631
Leroy L. Eldredge	13,692	14,365
M. Tilghman Earle	15,355	16,240
Lewis J. Ernst	10,998	11,451
Joan E. Pyne Memorial	6,024	6,243

John Peter Nionakis	5,375.....	5,654
Kids Cabaret	2,801.....	2,875
Field Hockey Team.....	7,352.....	7,824
Charles L. Vickery	22,412.....	24,673
Jamin Guarino	26,383.....	27,864
Thomas J. Wallace, Jr & Michelle Wallace	8,242.....	8,486
M. Dorothy Clifford	7,541.....	7,841
Gerald M. Collins, M.D.....	2,430.....	2,637
Hingham Scholarship Memorial	2,930.....	2,909
Crofoot Trust	17,258.....	17,642
Gloria O. Lofgren	11,264.....	11,673
Robin Helene Ruben	11,040.....	11,938
Robert L. Goodrich	27,386.....	28,914
Helen S. Wollan	3,537.....	3,737
Former Students of Hingham High School	11,453.....	11,809
Mark S. Gratta Sr Memorial	10,115.....	16,859
Hingham Women's Club	5,617.....	13,873
Rosemary Amoscato Shaughnessy	0.....	5,934
Corine Cyr Benedict Memorial	0.....	3,068
General Fund	4,083.....	4,386
Total	2,913,123.....	3,046,036